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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Aug. 30th—Sept. 5th, 1984
Volume 19, Number 35

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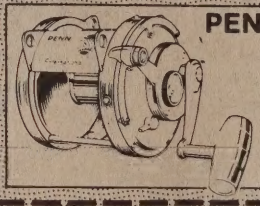

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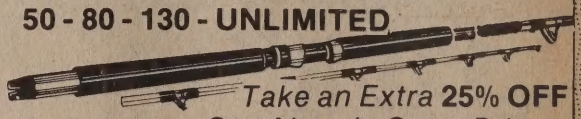

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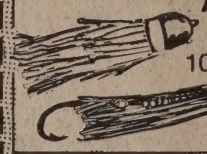

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 19, Number 35 August 30th, 1984

FEATURES:

UPDATE: FISHERY MANAGEMENT IN OTHER STATES
by William A. Muller 10

SEPTEMBER AT THE SORE THUMB
by John Fritz 13

"DAY OF THE DOLPHIN"
by John N. Raguso 16

WORK THE EDGES FOR BIG BASS
by Joe Daly 18

NEW YORK'S PARY BOAT TUNA
by Brian Mulholland 20

CRABBING: PLAIN & FANCY
by Jim Capossela 22

RECORD BREAKERS
by Fred Guardineer 25

DEPARTMENTS:

PASS IT ON 4
FISHING REPORTS 26
TIDE TABLES 51
SOLUNAR TABLES 51
THE FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED 52

ABOUT THE COVER:

A trio of gaffs are brought into play to get this 100 pound class tuna over the rail of a Sheepshead Bay open boat. Some Long Island head boats run special tuna trips during September and October, giving party boat anglers a rare opportunity to tangle with one of the ocean's great gamesters. See page 20 for more on this unique brand of angling. Cover by Sal Terranova.

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Managing Editor: William A. Muller
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Contributing Editors: Pete Barrett, Tim Coleman
Advertising Manager: Stu Miller

Director of Design: Richard S. Reina
Assist. Art Director: Carolyn Brewer
Production Manager: John Ciccariello
Production Staff: Virginia Burns, Barbara Hill, Diane Steichel
Circulation Manager: Steve Kenny

National Advertising Director: Gary Caputi

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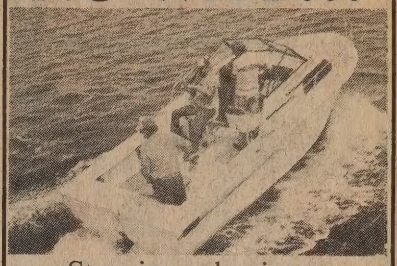

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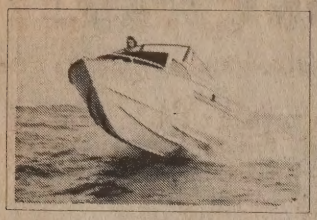

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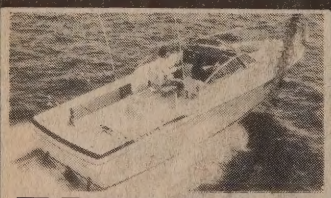

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CHUM LINES

ON BOOKS AND FLUKE AND SEALING WAX ...

Dear Dr. Muller:

I have in my possession a copy of L.I. Fisherman by Dave Knickerbocker and Fishing Around New York by J.W. Muller. I have often wondered whether or not J.W. is a relative. The book was published by the F. Weidner Printing & Pub. Co. of 1109-111 DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, 21, N.Y. Phones 5-1200-01-02. I would not advise you to write or place a phone call. You will not get through (I've tried).

I wish to discuss the 14 inch size limit on fluke. I have often heard a statement that New Jersey has no legal limit on fluke size. True or not, it does not excuse New Yorkers from the 14 inch law. I recall the dry period regarding fluke fishing and I do not cherish another dry period. I am fearful that we are headed in that direction. I have witnessed hundreds of shorts going into fishing bag. The greatest offenders are party boat fishermen and the greedy captains who condone this act. I recently overheard a Captain (name provided on request only) proudly announce to his crowd, "Hurry up, we have already picked up fifty fish." I was approximately 20 feet away from his boat at the time. I was fishing the area for two hours prior to his literally forcing my 19 footer aside.

I was picking up some fair size fluke. Every third fish ran over 14 inches and some. The party boat was picking up all rats and they went into the bags of the customer. I hollered over, "Hey, are you guys into flounder?" That captain was not aware of the fact that my fishing partner and myself were using a different bait and with great success. That boat picked up nothing but shorts during the two hours observed fishing. I left to try for another species, yet I venture to state that his size catch did not change.

I wish to point out a very important factor. I have been on a boat in Reynolds Channel and have been subjected to a search for shorts. I do know of fishermen who have been issued summons for this offense and rightly so. I must state that the law must apply to all or none at all. I have never witnessed a search of a party boat as to violations. I would venture to state that every party boat passenger would be issued a summons. Why are they immune to search? The party boat is the largest lawbreaker. Why the search in some bays and not in others? I have not observed any search in the bays of Sheepshead or Gravesend. You may use the text of this letter as an article if you wish. I would like to drive this message home and save the fluke from extinction. *Peter N. Russo.*

No, to the best of my knowledge, J.W. is not a relative. Muller is actually a very common German name, not unlike Smith in Great Britain, or Watanabe in Japan. On fluke: fortunately, most folks obey the law. Law enforcement people and legislators will tell you that laws are passed for honest people. If we had to enforce all laws to the hilt, there would be anarchy. That's why moral leaders are upset with the growing tendency of more and more people to rationalize their way out of obeying certain laws. Government officials are concerned in their way, too, because they know this type of behavior causes the decay and degeneration of a great society. History tells us that something like this happened in Rome during the fall. There are those who disregard the 14 inch fluke minimum size law, but they are not in the majority. Sometimes offenses are so offensive that the frequency of offending seems higher than it really it. Party boats are not immune. In fact, while fishing one this summer I saw another boarded by an officer and the catch inspected. In addition, a recent tour of the Captree Fleet found legal size posters in obvious positions and the captains and mates carefully, but firmly explaining the 14 inch law to patrons. Now, if you see an offense, call it in to the DEC. In Nassau and Suffolk, call (516) 751-7900. When the number of violations becomes too high, conscientious reports from concerned citizens can turn the tide and get things back under control. Dr. W.A. Muller.

THANKS FOR THE SEND-A-KID FISHING TRIP

Dear Mr. Golofaro:

On behalf of the Sea CLiff-North Shore Youth Council, I would like to thank you for the wonderful time that our young people had on the fishing trip sponsored by *The Long Island Fisherman* out of the Captree Boat Basin on August 22. Most of our young people, ages 14-17, had never been on a party fishing boat or visited the Captree Boat Basin. They had looked forward to this trip for days, and after it was over, they were both elated and happy with their "successful" fishing venture. One of our youths, a girl named Mary, caught the largest fluke on the "Dixie" and she also caught the only sea bass of the day.

Captain Ed of the Dixie and his crew were very professional and very pleasant to everyone aboard. Their attitude and patience certainly added to what was already a most exciting and enjoyable trip.

The trip was a great experience for our young people. Judging from the conversations of today, it will certainly provide many pleasant memories for both them and our staff. Once

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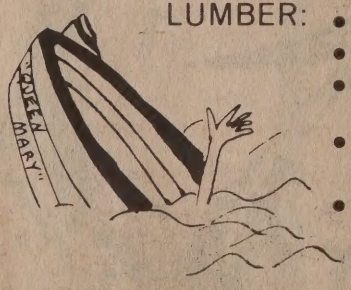

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again, thanks to you and those who have contributed to the S.A.K.F. Program for a truly exhilarating and positive day! *Barbara Ann E. Swartz.*

* * *

Dear Mr. Golofaro:

I can't tell you how much the boys enjoyed the Send-A-Kid Fishing trips you arranged for them. They are still talking about the fish they caught.

Again, thanks to all those who have made these trips possible. *Bonnie Kaufman, Coordinator, Volunteer Services. St. Mary of the Angels Home.*

SEND-A-KID FISHING PROGRAM ROLLING ALONG

Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure to make this donation for such a worthwhile activity.

Perhaps if just one young person's interest is sparked in the right direction, others will follow. Yours truly, *Robt. H. Gramman, Treas., Imperial Sportsmans Club.*

* * *

Please accept our check on behalf of your "Send-A-Kid Fishing" Program. As I think back to my first fishing trip, my mind races with memories of joy and excitement. May two children enjoy this same feeling in years to come. What better way to bring this enjoyment to someone than to have them "bitten with the bug!" Keep up the good work! *Tom and Fran Sweeney.*

* * *

Dear Fred,

I am enclosing $18 for two youngsters. This is to go for one boy and one girl. I haven't done much fishing since I moved out of the Bronx and I sure miss it. I figure that by sending two young ones on a fishing trip, I will at least be there in spirit. I have only been out three times this year, and I hope that I will get out some more in sending a kid fishing.

Best wishes and good luck in sending a kid fishing. *Anthony Cardinale.*

* * *

Enclosed is my yearly check for your program. If you need any aid with the kids, count me as a volunteer. I can help rigging up lines, and with instruction, etc. *George J. Rambousek.*

* * *

Sirs:

We think that this is a wonderful thing to do for the kids. Our organization also includes kids, so have a good time. *Wm. J. Abromaitis, Pres., The Honor Legion of the Police Dept. of the City of New York.*

* * *

Dear Staff,

The Peconic River (Grumman) Kiwanis Club can clearly visualize the potential of your Send-A-Kid Fishing Program. We hope our Club's response and enthusiam for your very worthy cause will enable many a

youngster to realize the true meaning of team effort and sportsmanship.

Enclosed is our check to charter one complete party boat for very special people—our country's future leaders. *The Peconic River (Grumman) Kiwanis Club, Frank H. Matthes, Treas.*

TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN UNRESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF RECREATIONAL ANGLERS

It has become increasingly clear over the past year that Brookhaven Town Supervisor Henriette Acompora and her staff have chosen to turn a deaf ear to the concerns and needs of resident and non-resident fishermen alike. Brookhaven Town residents have the luxury of returning the favor come election time. Other anglers, Burt Hart among them, have chosen to vent their frustration in other ways. The letter below being a good example. *Fred Golofaro.*

Mrs. Henriette Acompora
Supervisor, Town of Brookhaven
Patchogue, N.Y. 11772
Dear Mrs. Acompora:

The other evening I traveled to Hallocks Landing Road in Rocky Point, parked my beach buggy at a friend's house, and proceeded on foot to the shore—crossing the usual tire marks in the sand that I had seen on other trips at low tide.

I had been fishing about a half hour when a three-wheeled 'trike appeared and began racing up and down the beach—through other beach users including children playing in the sand, up the slope of the high cliffs, sliding down when he would lose momentum. This kept up until the time I left as I could see still his headlights and hear the roar of his conveyance.

My congratulations to you and your board for the magnificent stroke of genius in which the fishermen were separated from the beach abusers, the North Shore property owners appeased, and at the same time, solving the environmental impact of vehicles on the beach.

It all boils down to the fact that the fishermen are no longer there, everything else remains the same. My only regret is that I am not able to vote in your district, but am heartened by the fact that many other anglers are. Yours truly, Burton B. Hart.

WANTS TO JOIN MONTAUK SURFCASTERS

As an avid surf fisherman who fishes Montauk most of the time, I wanted to join the Montauk Surfcasters Association and was wondering if you had the address of the club.

Also, after reading an article in The Fisherman on Shagwong, went to fish there and was told to leave because of me not being a Suffolk County resident. Is there any way to get a permit to fish Shagwong without being a Suffolk County resident? *John Vogel.*

The last viable address for the Montauk Surfcasters Association is: Mr.

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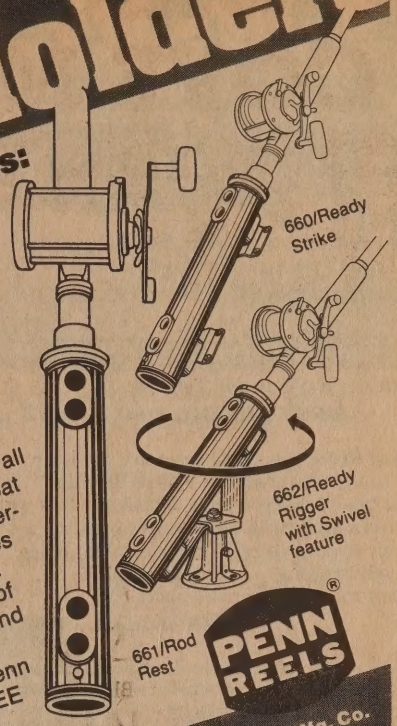

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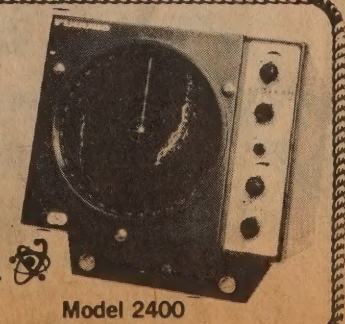

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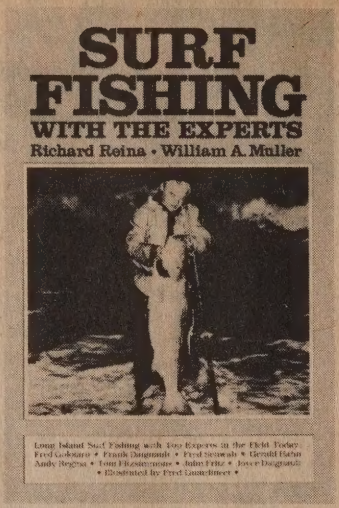
KEN MORAN, POST



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Tony Luca, 317 14th St., West Babylon, N.Y. 11704.

However, officers and responsibilities may change. Tony is active in the organization and I'm sure he'll be willing to help you in his usual good-natured way. If you are a surf fisherman, the Montauk Surfcasters Association is a good organization to belong to. They are, and always have been, active in seeking new surf fishing access and preserving the old and they are very concerned over habitat and species conservation. Sorry, to the best of our knowledge there is no way to get a permit unless you are a Suffolk resident. However, if you don't mind a walk, and physicians tell us that walking is good for the health, then you can get a temporary pass for Gin Beach from any of the motels you might stay at. You can then walk to Shagwong. It is a healthy walk, but not an impossible one—I've done it several times. Dr. W.A. Muller.

POLITICALLY MOTIVATED?

Dear Sirs:

In the July 26th issue, under the column, "Pass It On..," I read an article about sportsmen and conservationists for Reagan/Bush in '84. There is no such thing as a sportsman or conservationist or environmentalist for Reagan. I was shocked to see that you published an article such as this and I wonder if it was a mistake. I hope so.

It is a matter of public knowledge that Reagan, when first elected in 1980, set out to destroy two agencies by appointing James Watt as Secretary of the Interior, and named Anne Burford as head of the Environmental Protection Agency. From the first weeks of his administration it became apparent that the air and land and sea meant nothing to them in the way of protection and everything in the way of exploitation.

Practically every sports-minded group, including the National Wildlife Federation, which is composed mostly of affluent Republicans, found Reagan's policies damnable and they went on record, again and again, calling for Watt's ouster. Has your magazine, editorially, ever denounced the doings of Watt and Burford, and needless to say, Reagan? I don't believe so, for I have read every issue of The Fisherman for at least 10 years.

I am not a Democrat writing this letter. I have not voted in over 15 years. I am an avid surf fisherman and I am concerned about a president who has nothing but contempt for this country's natural resources, enough so, that I am considering a return to the voting booth. You can turn nations back economically, but once they've been sent down the road environmentally, there is, sometimes and in certain places, no way back ever. I didn't see too many bass this spring and early summer in Montauk, not did I see too many weakfish, and certain nights while fishing under the Light for hours and all along that

stretch to the west, it was eerie, as if I was fishing barren water. Don't take my words as sarcasm—but where are all the fish?

I would expect a magazine of your stature to weed out certain press releases. Even if the staff and readership of The Fisherman is composed of Republicans, it makes no sense to promote an ideology that is a direct threat to fishing. There is no argument, if you care to offer one, that you are presenting one side, or in this case, one party's views, for the Reagan Administration has been found guilty as sin (symbolically) and would have been found legally in sin if there were senators and congressmen who put their judicial responsibilities above their political aims.

There have been two items in the press in the past two weeks about Reagan and the environment, directly related to all fishermen. One, Reagan lifted the 200 mile ban that prohibited Soviet fishing fleets from entering our coastal waters; I find this reprehensible, no matter what deal(s) was worked out behind the scenes with Russia. Possibly there was no deal, possibly it was a celebration of Anne Burford's return, a gesture, to celebrate the new chairwoman of the National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere, making her feel at home.

The Fisherman has stood up in the past. It took a stance against Westway, a project that Reagan pledged federal money to build. You have stood up against the sale of Fort Hero to private developers, and here, this was a result of a Reagan/Watt policy that put that piece of land up for grabs. In countless editorials, you (specifically William Muller) have taken a position of morality, decency and good judgment and have enlightened many of us to the ways of fish and fishing, with a high regard for both. I hope you will put political considerations aside, if that is indeed the case, and speak out against policies that are built on greed and contempt. *Burt Barr.*

Dear Burt,

The publishing of this news item did not reflect in any way political considerations for one party or another. It was simply published as a courtesy to our readers with the hope that some of them might take advantage of the information provided in the release. If you recall, it provided the name (Tom McMillan) of the National Director for Sportsmen and Conservationists. His primary concern "for continued opportunities for sporting enthusiasts to enjoy the country's natural resources" seemed to be an opportunity for Fisherman readers to reach the ears of national government on issues of concern to marine anglers.

Rest assured that our first consideration will always be that which is best for the environment, regardless of the political implications. Sincerely, Fred Golofaro.

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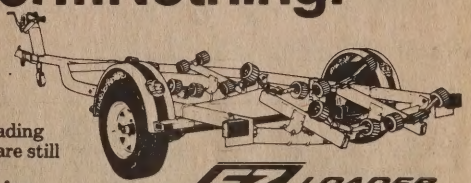

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★★★ NEWS UPDATE ★★★

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IN OTHER STATES

by William A. Muller

All across the country recreational fishermen are organizing. Why? Mostly because the environment is threatened and concerned citizens are struggling to correct the abuse of our planet. As it turns out, the most likely people to organize to correct abuses will be those closest to the problems. In this case, recreational fishermen are on the water. They see the pollution, they read related articles in magazines and newspapers, and they have witnessed the retreat of precious habitats as civilization, technology and progress have swept across the littoral zone. They have also come to respect the animals and plants of the sea. The very fish they seek become more than the quarry; they become fellow competitors to be respected and admired.

Recently, we received communication from Mr. George Klecak in South Carolina. He sent along a few pro-environmental articles he had written for local newspapers. He sent them, for my information because he knows of my interest in such matters, along with other communications relating to mariculture—a burgeoning interest for Mr. Klecak. Interestingly enough, one of Mr. Klecak's articles discussed the waste in the shrimp fishery in the Carolinas. In 1975, there were 500 licensed trawlers operating in South Carolina while in 1983 the total had risen to 1500. That's a staggering statistic and it reveals several important points. For one, there's money in them thar' hills. Enough money so that even with declining shrimp populations a profit can be made. According to Mr. Klecak, "There are only a certain amount of shrimp available to sustain a profitable fishery, and if everyone who has the required license fees is permitted to participate, certain collapse of the fishery is the final result. Limited entry is the only solution to this problem."

This very clear and succintly impacting statement summarizes the essence of disagreement between commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, and environmentalists over management. Mr. Klecak's position is rendered all the more remarkable because he is a retired commercial fisherman. At times, it appears futile to continue an unending dialog to promote fishery management, conserve habitats, and protect the rights of varied user groups. We have said it before; so has Mr. Klecak, folks on Lake Erie, in Florida, in California, in Texas and hundreds of other places. What are all these people saying? They're saying that the dollar should not be the criteria by which we decide the fate of our fishery resources and our marine habitats. The future for our children should be a more immediate concern, as should the rights of the animals. Mr. Klecak continues: "For many years, the fishery (shrimp) has been mismanaged. Of the four topics permitted to be discussed at the recent meeting, only one had any meaningful bearing on the shrimp shortage,

The South Carolina shrimp fishery may very well be impacting our local weakfishing.

and that is the closing of sounds and bays to trawling." Sound familiar?

Why should be in New York be concerned about the fight in South Carolina? Simple. It impacts on our finfishery in New York. If you've been reading The Fisherman, you'll recall recent discussions about weakfish management now under development and how shrimpers in the Carolinas take over five pounds of very young weakfish for every pound of shrimp. We have an ally in South Carolina. Perhaps our interests do not exactly mesh, but in the process of both weakfish management and groundfish preservation, we may come to work together to protect a variety of species and the habitat too. Mr. Klecak wrote: "At a recent meeting of shrimp fishermen, it was stated that very few edible fish were destroyed during dragging operations. Every shrimper knows this to be a falsehood, and to bear this out, is the following statement contained in a recent publication of **The Marine Fisheries Review**, a publication of the U.S. Department of Commerce: 'Estimates place the amount of groundfish destroyed during commercial shrimping operations at between one (billion) and four billion pounds annually ... A shrimp separator trawl is being developed with a design goal of reducing capture and subsequent destruction of (fish) by 90 percent'."

Readers will recall we discussed the separator trawl in weakfish management articles awhile back. The separator trawl is stressed here because it may become a symbol of the recreational effort to reduce waste and manage finfish more effectively. Perhaps the separator trawl will be the flagpole around which more of us can rally. You see, although regionally recreational fishermen are becoming increasingly better organized and more effective in legislative and management circles, we are still way behind in a coastal and nationwide organization. We need to recognize that our neighbors fight is our fight, too, either with direct payoffs as in the case of the shrimp fishery, or indirectly simply and inescapably because the creatures of the sea are linked together. If we help one there has to be benefits to others, regardless of how subtle and hidden from us the benefits may be.

Mr. Klecak's expressed interest in mariculture is of great significance, too, since mariculture may become the ultimate opportunity for commercial harvestors to preserve a way of life that's many generations old without destroying and abusing the now understood limits of the sea's productivity. Clearly, the sea cannot provide endless, unlimited harvests. Several decades ago we still believed the productivity of the sea was endless. We suffered hard lessons to discover that it is not so. In addition, mariculture may take the heat off reduced stocks and provide additional millions of young fish for the ocean ecosystem: cultured and released by government farms. We do it with trout and other freshwater fish, and some day soon we'll do it in the sea. The current myth is that we cannot stock the ocean. It will someday prove to be just a myth, although right now many distinguished people believe it to be a truism. Certainly stocking the sea will not be identical to what is done in freshwater, but there will be similarities, as well as striking differences. We cannot release millions of fry and expect to go back to that spot and catch them next year—not if the fish are migratory. Putting millions of fish into an enormous ocean may seem like a futile exercise, but it will not be when we come around to doing it. Millions of fingerlings of a species added to the coastal ocean yearly could increase the stocks enough to mean the difference between a successful recreational fishery and one that fails. In this sense, recreational fishing is no different from commercial harvesting. Nets continue to take fish even when stocks are down. Success with nets is more related to the experience of the fisherman, the circumstances of weather, the luck of coincidence of place, time, and effort, and the amount of effort put in. When stocks are high, it may take a netter one day out of the week to get what he needs to sustain that part of his business. He moves on to other species or even other activities. If stocks are down, he may fish everyday. The harvest may stay the same, but the catch per unit effort goes way down. In management discussion they will argue that there is nothing wrong with the stocks because they took as much this year as ten years ago. To them, because of their habits and techniques, declining stocks are often an illusion. Recreational fishing success, however, is predicated on abundance because through competition fish must be induced to chose a lure or baited hook. The less the competition, the more likely the flaws in the offering will be discovered. Only when there is abundance and the fish must react instinctively and instantaneously will recreational fishing be successful. That's why we can have a number of very good years and then the success goes suddenly from great to almost nothing in one year. The critical mass for success is no longer present. Weakfish prove this point.

Recreational fishermen will not be immune from management restrictions and those who oppose this will have to do a little thinking in order to discover if the possibility exists for accepting ways to preserve the species we cherish. There will be bag limits, there will be more size restrictions, and there will be more closed seasons. We must try not to resist these regulations and laws because rather than deprive us, they may become the very vehicle that will allow us to catch certain species into our old age and help guarantee that the sport will be there for our children and their children.

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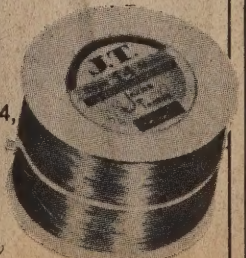

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SEPTEMBER AT THE SORE THUMB

by John Fritz

Protruding out into the swirling currents of Fire Island Inlet, this pile of rock and rubble serves as a way station for feeding gamefish.

The closing days of summer sets in motion the first imperceptible signs of change within the confines of Fire Island Inlet. Juvenile fish, which spent the summer in the relative safety of Great South Bay, must now face the dangers of the open sea. The end of summer also brings about a renewed interest in feeding on the part of the predator species. Bluefish and fluke, weaks and striped bass all make their presence known to anglers working the shores of Fire Island Inlet. There is no better place to seek these game fish than from the banks of the Sore Thumb.

In the recent past the border of the Thumb was comprised entirely of a jumble of broken concrete and twisted reinforcing rods. Although Nature can also take back what she has provided, the entire western and southern perimeters, plus a portion of the east face, now consists of a sandy beach. While this alteration has eliminated much of the appeal the Thumb held for certain species, particularly blackfish, it does provide for a more relaxing approach to fishing the southeast rip. As of this past spring the ever popular northeast corner still forces the caster to balance himself precariously on the jagged bits of rubble.

There are a few different ways an angler may undertake to fish the Thumb. Many of the regulars prefer the leisurely approach, fishing bait during the daylight hours for whatever happens along. Others patiently work the rips and adjacent beach during the night tides using all manner of swimming plugs. Some daytime anglers will spurn the use of bait, preferring instead to bide their time, plugging the rips now and then to keep it honest, while hoping for a school of fish to move within casting range. The more discriminating surfmen concentrate on the dawn and dusk periods, particularly when they coincide with their favorite tide. Whatever plan of action an angler chooses to follow, he can be assured that both the time and place are conducive to catching fish.

The Sore Thumb was built to alter the flow of the inlet currents, the shape of which was designed to prevent shoaling of the essential boat channels. While the original intent failed miserably, it did provide the beach-bound angler with an ideal place from which to fish. The Sore Thumb is aptly named because it

(Continued on next page.)

The sand beach bordering the "Thumb's" west side, surrendered these slammer blues to "Bucktail Sal."

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projects well into the swirling currents of Fire Island Inlet. Since the angler will be fishing this inlet he should be aware of the peculiar nature of this inlet's tides. Local fishermen do not plan their trips according to stated periods of high or low water, but rather times of current change and flow.

As with fishing any inlet, rips and eddies form on specific stages of the tide; the Sore Thumb is no different and the regulars try to direct their efforts to these time periods. The northeast corner, for instance, seems to produce the best for bottom fishermen when the tide is flooding or in the initial stages of the ebb. Plug casters, on the other hand, prefer the prominent rip which forms off the Thumb's southeast corner, during the latter stages of an outgoing tide. Strong winds from certain quarters can have an adverse effect on the fishing here. Winds from the east or south usually create turbulent conditions in the waters surrounding the Thumb. The opposite effect is created by winds originating in the north or west, which besides producing a calming influence will tend to drive the troublesome masses of eel grass towards Democrat point.

This profusion of weed can seriously hamper any fishing effort, whether it be bait fishing or casting artificials. Anglers, familiar with the effect of wind and tide on this vegetation, use their experience to avoid the greatest concentrations of weed.

All these suggestions regarding the most advantageous times to fish the Thumb are of little help to the angler who can only fish a few times a week. This is especially true if he must walk from the Cedar Beach parking lot or the Senior Citzens Jetty at Oak Beach. Sure, it is best to plan for a specific tide, but if that is not practical or if the wind is blowing from the wrong direction, it is better to make an effort than not go at all. As stated previously, this is September, anything can happen and it usually does.

Unless the weather is absolutely atrocious, creating obstacles too difficult to overcome, it is possible to take some fish at almost any time. For instance, some of the best action has taken place when the outer beaches were in turmoil. At such times, teen blues have been taken on bait while schools of bonito, seen cavorting nearby, have frustrated any anglers hardy enough to be abroad.

Probably the highlight of the daytime fishing at this time of the season is the technique of live-lining snappers for weakfish, doormat fluke or tackle busting bluefish. The snappers are taken from the depths off the tip of the Thumb which faces due north. Light one-handed rods are used to cast miniature tins and spoons. Just about anything with a flash will take fish, but the 1/8 ounce Kastmaster is a favorite as is the similar weight Wob-L-Rite spoon. After the snappers are landed, a feat which is sometimes more difficult than hooking game fish, they are immediately placed in a pail of water. Without an aerator only a few snappers will survive for any length of time, so there is no need to take more than a few at a time. Occasionally, snappers are hard to find. On the outgoing tide they may be located along the south face where they tend to congregate in the slack water of the eddy.

Once a supply of snappers has been secured they are taken to the east face where they are used from the fish-finder rig. Once they have expired they are not discarded for they are almost as effective when used as cut bait. In order to prevent their speedy death, the live snappers should be hooked just below the dorsal fin, a location that ensures against piercing the lateral line or any vital organs.

There are occasions when it is impossible to obtain a supply of snappers. If the mullet run is at its peak it might be possible to snag a few and they make an excellent substitute for the elusive baby blues. All is not lost if live bait cannot be captured, for chunks of frozen mackerel have proven to be a superb replacement. A cork float is rarely used when fishing with live bait; at other times, it's addition depends on the strength of the existing current. A terminal rig which is permitted to drift too far downtide will become snagged in the debris of which the Thumb is made.

Even though long casts are not necessary, equipment capable of handling the bait plus a four or five ounce sinker will be required. It will be readily apparent to an experienced surfman that the tackle will also be called upon to turn a terrified game fish which is making full use of the tidal rips. As the battle reaches its climax, the skill of the angler and the quality of his tackle must prevent this same fish from making a last desperate attempt at freedom by diving into the rocks.

What is not readily apparent is that it is not uncommon for an angler to set the hook on a fish only to discover his terminal gear moving slowly and forcibly towards the open sea. To the uninitiated, the first thought is of a monster bass, but to regulars of the area it means that a sting ray has taken a fancy to the bait. The top weights of these beasts can only be guessed at for the larger ones are never landed: beached fish range in the 40 or 50 pound class. Wanton killing of these creatures serves no purpose, so seasoned anglers fight them to the wash where they cut the leader and let them go their way relatively unharmed.

It is common for surfmen fishing the south shore beaches to use live eels when seeking striped bass. In most instances, the eel is cast seaward on a fishfinder rig and allowed to sit in place until discovered by a passing bass. This technique is refined somewhat to take advantage of the swirling rips found off the Thumb. The eel is cast uptide and

allowed to drift with the current until it reaches a point where it is in danger of being swept into the rocks. The process is then repeated with the angler changing positions now and then to cover different parts of the rip. Best results are obtained when a weight is used to force the eel to the bottom.

Daytime pluggers rely heavily on poppers and tin which are cast to willing schools of harbor blues; probably the same schools which have entertained anglers since spring. As mentioned before, bonito are a refreshing visitor at this time of the season and while they are reluctant to take a lure, they have been induced to strike a fast moving tin. Every now and then an angler is surprised to find that a sea bass has seized his tin, an indication that a bottom fisherman, directing his efforts at this prized table fare might do well. Before the water becomes chilled some bait fishermen, using pieces of clam, do very well catching triggerfish averaging two or three pounds.

The full story of what the nighttime pluggers accomplish is rarely disclosed. School bass are taken on a variety of minnow-type swimmers with larger fish taking slowly worked metal lipped swimmers such as the Junior Atom. The latter type of plug is best used in areas away from the full force of a changing tide. The powerful currents which surge around the Thumb are best left to working darters or bottle plugs. Larger plugs need not be the 2½ and 3 ounce heavyweights popular at Montauk. By using the smaller models of either Super Strike or Gibbs, an angler is able to use the same tackle to cast a wide variety of swimming plugs. If he confines his efforts to the south face rips and back eddies, where the perpetual shifting of the inlet's sands has buried the rubble and provided an unimpeded expanse of beach, medium class tackle will be sufficient. Medium action 9 or 10 foot rods, with say, a Penn 710 spooled with 10 or 12 lb. test line, will provide for thrilling sport while ensuring ample backbone to subdue most fish. Naturally, a fortunate angler hooked into a trophy sized fish will be forced to follow his prize downtide. With an ebb tide there is almost a mile of clean shore before he runs out of land, on a flooding tide the east face of the Thumb is as far as he can follow.

A Long Island surf fisherman would be hard pressed to come up with a location offering as much diversity as can be found at summer's end on the Sore Thumb. It is possible to pursue a technique designed to please everyone's taste, with a better than average chance of success. In fact, some regulars attempt more than one method at the same time. More often than not, the scramble to reach a rod, jammed in a spike, which is throbbing from the pull of a startled fish, results in little more than a lost bait and a chorus of laughter from unsympathetic fellow anglers.

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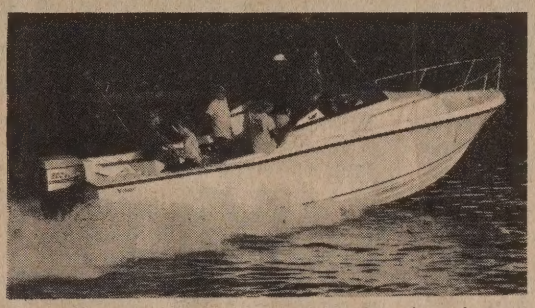

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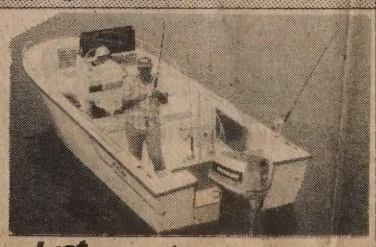

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"DAY OF THE DOLPHIN"

by John N. Raguso

These colorful acrobats provide an "exotic alternative" for offshore anglers.

At first glance, the title of this article casts a striking parallel to the memorable movie starring George C. Scott. It involved a scientist and his lady friend and their in-depth work in training and caring for some bottle-nosed dolphins (mammals). But that's where the similarities end. This story line concerns the pelagic dolphin fish that invade our inshore waters every year about this time, and provide an exotic alternative to pursuing the summer's more predictable quarry of blues, sharks and tuna.

The first reports of dolphin (also known as mahi mahi or dorado in other locales) usually come from the canyon trollers in mid-July. They are taken as an incidental catch on lures or baits while the canyon clique pursue tuna and marlin. As the inshore 15 to 35 fathom waters begin to approach 72 to 75 degrees, the dolphin venture closer to shore in their quest for food, suitable environment and safety from predators. Many fishermen are totally unawares of the presence of these multi-colored acrobats, and I'm sure greater numbers would be caught if more anglers would learn to recognize typical dolphin habitat and spent a little time trying to catch a few in prospective territory. Before we get into the specifics of where to go, and how to do it, let's take a closer look at a profile of this transient summertime visitor and see what makes it tick.

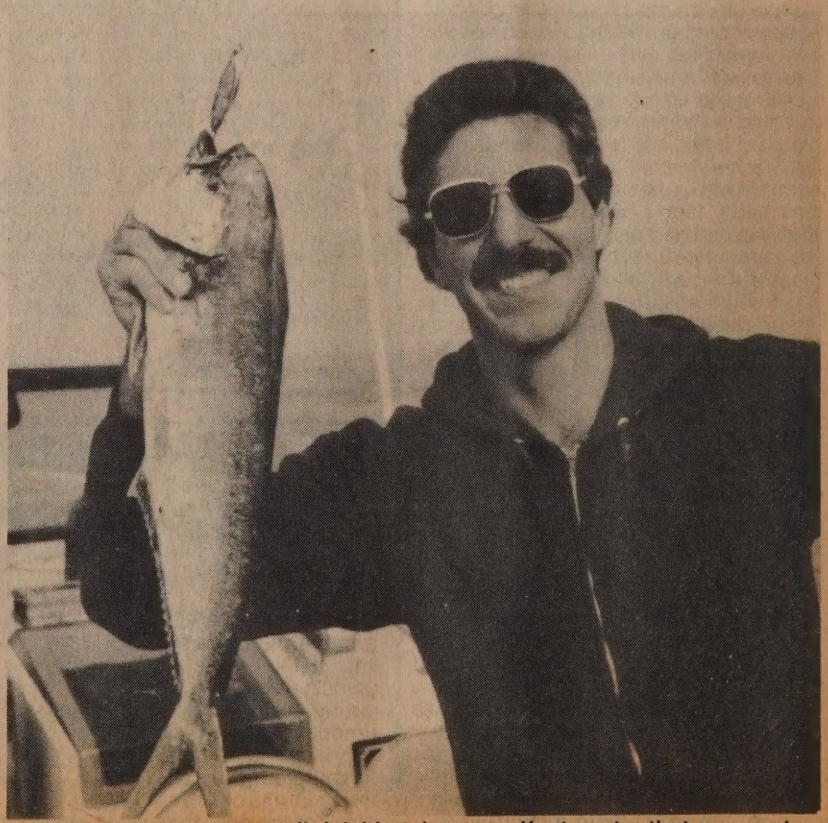
The dolphin is a pelagic, schooling and migratory fish that is found in tropical and warm temperature seas and is basically a deep water species that inhabits the surface of the open ocean. Translated, this means that these fish constantly roam about our waters in search of food and shelter, have a tendency to travel together in schools offshore in the upper water table, migrating from one area to another as the seasonal clock winds along.

For the uninitiated, the dolphin ranks among the most distinctive and colorful of all game fish available to Long Island and New Jersey anglers. These colors vary with individual fish, but generally the dolphin sports a deep irridescent blue/green on the back and dorsal region, blending to a greenish gold on the flanks and silvery white on the belly. The sides are sprinkled with a generous assortment of black, blue and golden spots of various sizes and the dorsal fin is a deep blue while the other fins and tail are a golden yellow trimmed in blue. The net result is a multi-hued light show that would put to shame any peacock! Predictably, after death, the colors fade rapidly to a uniform yellow or silvery gray. The male dolphin are readily distinguished from their female counterparts by their square, high, hatchet-like vertical foreheads. The profile of the female by contrast, is more rounded, with a gentle sloping forehead and a more subdued coloration. Generally speaking, most large specimens are males or "bull dolphin," and these fish almost always possess a more brilliant color scheme than the "female cows."

Dolphin can cover a lot of water in one day in their quest for forage, and their thin bodies are built for speed, thus providing an unparalleled aerial show when hooked, complete with back flips, tail walking and loop-the-loops. The average size dorado found in these waters ranges from 5 to 10 lbs., but don't be too surprised to see a 40 pounder crash the baits and try to wreak havoc on your trolling or casting outfit. Now that we've filled in a little background material on these fish, let's get into the where and when to start your search and how to put a few more of these delectable creatures in your fish box and on your dinner table.

Mid-August through the end of September is the peak inshore time period to seek dolphin, since the ocean's water temperature reaches its summer zenith and begins to plateau before the inevitable colder fall weather onslaught. How long into the month of September they stick around depends on the weather; all it takes is a strong northeast blow or two to send these golden acrobats scurrying south to seek warmer climate. Water temperature is an obvious key variable, and as mentioned earlier, 72 to 75 degrees is a good starting point to initiate an earnest attempt on your part to start looking for the places that dolphin like to congregate.

Dolphin can be located near or directly under any sort of "floating structure" you might happen upon. Likely candidates are weed lines, boards or driftwood, ladders, logs, planks, oil cans, buoys or whatever can provide a temporary surface cover



The author shows a small dolphin taken on a Kastmaster that was cast close to some flotsam.

for baitfish and the aggressive dolphin who seek them. Understand too, that it's a big ocean out there and at times, the hunter becomes the hunted. School sized dorado are, in turn, a favorite bait for marlin and tuna, and they also use this floating shelter as a sanctuary from these predators that would make a quick meal of their delicious flesh. I've never caught dolphin in water depths less than 80 to 85 feet, but that doesn't mean that 65 to 70 foot water won't hold fish. This is especially true east of Fire Island Inlet where there is less boat traffic than in the western New York Bight area.

Should you come across what you perceive as potentially productive waters, your plan of attack should be threefold. First, try positioning your trolling lures as close as you can to the floating debris, while keeping your boat as far away as possible to avoid spooking the fish. This requires some skill and knowledge on your part on how your craft handles in a tight situation. The recommended drill is to stream the lures about 150 to 200 feet in the wake, then approach your target about 20 yards off to one side of it. As you run past the object on your beam, cut 45 degrees or so sharply in the direction that will change the course of the lures and enable them to sweep within a few feet of your objective. Obviously, it takes some practice to avoid snagging the flotsam while keeping the lures in this productive zone, so expect a few foul-ups at first. You'll be surprised at how close you can get with a little experience, and the likelihood of catching fish in this manner will increase the closer you can drag your lures past the debris. Be sure to make approach runs from the four major compass points (north, south, east and west) just in case your quarry has a preference for the direction their next meal is traveling from. Use Jap feathers and cedar jigs to best duplicate the small squid, anchovies and sand eels that are the dolphin's natural forage.

If this fails to produce, phase two dictates that you take a light jigging or casting rod armed with a small 1 to 2 ounce flashy Hopkins or diamond jig. Approach the flotsam from upwind/uptide and cut your engines about 50 yards away so that you'll drift within casting distance. This requires first, that you keep these rods on board and loaded-up, ready to go and second, that you can cast the lure or jig within a foot or so of the floating debris without snagging it. It's sort of like casting for freshwater bass or pickerel on the lake when you were a kid, except that now the reward for an accurate lure placement will be a hook-up with an acrobatic dorado of unknown proportions, as opposed to a pint-sized panfish.

Should this step come up empty, phase three is to carry some whole spearing while tossing out a few of these tasty morsels in a chum line. If there are any dolphin to be found, they shouldn't be able to resist the temptation of fresh bait. If you observe green and golden flashes zipping through your chum slick, put a few spearing on a small hook and let it drift under the flotsam with the chum.

If you are lucky enough to connect using any of these prescribed techniques, be sure to keep the first fish in the water, for more dolphin will follow and mill around in a confused state, perhaps using your boat as "new structure" for their antics. It is at this time where you can cast to individual fish and perhaps catch a good portion of the school. It's not exactly like shooting ducks in a barrel, since the dolphin can be finicky at times. But if they're in a feeding mood—look out! Hold on to your fishing rod, get the cameras ready and be prepared for the thrill of a lifetime as the dolphin dance and tail-walk to your delight.

Last season my boat Marcee-J was fortunate enough to hook up with 13 dolphin, landing nine. This is more than some crews see in a lifetime, but I claim no special distinction. It's just that whenever we came across a "dolphin board" or other structure, we gave it a shot.

Recommended tackle for these golden aerial acrobats depends on the method fished. For trolling, a 20 or 30 pound outfit should be more than enough lumber to subdue any dolphin you're likely to handle in these waters. It's light enough to allow the fish a chance to strut its stuff, yet strong enough to handle the occasional 30 to 40 pound bull that might come along. Since the dolphin are normally caught as a by-product of tuna trolling, the same gear you'd use on the skippies, bonito or false albacore should suffice whenever you discover dolphin territory. For casting jigs or drifting bait, a 7 foot, fast taper jigging or spinning rod should do the trick. We carry conventional custom made Fenwick Pacificstiks combined with Newell 229 reels loaded with 20 pound test on board my boat, but any quality spin or casting reel from Penn, Daiwa or Shakespeare will turn the trick.

In summary, fishing for dolphin is a dynamic process that's always changing. They move constantly from surface structure to structure on their migratory routes, and you can never be sure which floating piece of debris you come across will hold fish. Action so far this season has been at least 40 miles offshore and sporadic. But as that inshore water warms up, the prime time action will be ready to break open. Take advantage of this often overlooked fishery that will provide the thrill of a lifetime should you hook up to this exotic ocean gamester. Spend some time investigating areas that you think might be productive. The entire three-phased approach that I've suggested for flushing out the dorado will only take five minutes of effort, so why not give it a shot the next time you head for the blue water?

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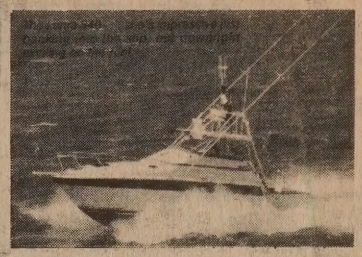

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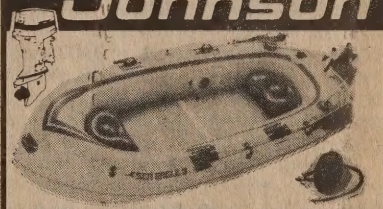

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WORK THE EDGES FOR BIG BASS

by Joe Daly

Sure, we all do the very same thing when we first pull up to a lake. We look way out across the water to some large cove or possibly a few minutes with our minds full of visions of large bass dancing in our heads, and we just know that that must be the spot. Well, since we all do it, that fishy looking spot that caught your eye probably caught the eye of 99 percent of the bass anglers who visit that lake, and the spot is probably not going to be very productive.

The real secret to consistently catching bass is to work a pattern and try to stick to it. There are many patterns you may choose, and all will catch bass at one time or another depending on conditions. The one pattern that will produce well during the summer months is a pattern of fishing the shoreline or edges of the lake. It is a very rare occasion when you will not pick up at least several bass by fishing close to shore.

Understanding just why the shoreline produces so consistently is not nearly as difficult as you may think. The water near the shoreline is usually better supplied with oxygen due to the constant slapping of the water against the shoreline itself. Bass will seek out areas where the oxygen supply is good, and thus the edges are prime spots. This oxygen factor becomes more important during the hot summer months when much of the water will become oxygen poor.

Another reason the bass tend to frequent the shoreline areas is because the shoreline area usually has a good supply of structure. Let's face it, when a tree gets blown over by the wind or falls when struck by lightning, it certainly doesn't fall way out in the middle of the lake. It falls close to the shoreline. It is a well known fact that bass just love structure, so what better place for them to find it?

Other types of structure also seem to be more commonly found close to the edges. These include lily pads, bull rushes, overhanging bushes, stumps, logs, weed beds, dropoffs, and the undercut shoreline itself. All of these places are well known bass hideouts and all can be found very close to the shores of most lakes and ponds.

In summary, we have established that you should catch your share of bass by fishing close to the edges of the lake because that area offers good oxygen as well as excellent bass holding structure. There is, however, an even greater reason why the shoreline area will provide you with good bass action, and that is the constant supply of food for the bass that these areas offer.

Insects abound near the shoreline of every lake and pond. The many trees, bushes, and flowering plants that grow at the water's edge are the natural habitat of insects and many of them fall into the water. While we seldom think about a bass making a meal of an insect, they do indeed. But what's more common even though it goes completely unnoticed by most anglers, is that the many insects make just the right size meal for minnows and baitfish. It doesn't take too much imagination to understand that while the baitfish are making a meal out of those thousands of insects, those big bass are moving in to make a meal out of them. There we have one small section of the food chain that is available at the water's edge.

Other forms of food that live out their entire life at the edge of your favorite lake or pond include small birds, snakes, salamanders, worms, baby ducks, baby squirrels, and the list goes on and on. All are suitable meals for bass, and the bass will spend a good portion of their feeding time in these areas.

Working the edges of a lake does not require any special knowledge on the part of the fisherman. In fact, the edges or shoreline area is probably the easiest portion of the lake to fish. You won't have to study your depth finder, or worry about pH factors. All you have to do is remember you are fishing in shallow water, so it is important to remain as quiet as possible, and remain as invisible as possible.

The visibility factor can easily be reduced by not standing up in the boat. By remaining seated, you can greatly reduce the line of sight a fish will have, and thereby not be seen before you have a chance to catch the bass. Bass in shallow water are easy to spook; so a little extra effort and awareness on your part can play an important role in your success.

Such shallow areas are a natural for the lure fisherman. Plastic worms can be effectively fished right up close to shore. In fact, with a little practice, you will be able to skip cast your plastic worm so it will land underneath overhanging branches and bushes. This can be dynamite during the dog days of summer when the bass will often retreat to the shady areas to beat the sun.

We all agree that the spinnerbait is a lure that is effective under any conditions and the shoreline areas are no exception. Try different retrieves ranging from the very fast to the stop-and-go. If you are able to spot standing structure in the water, be sure to work the surrounding area thoroughly before moving on. If stumps are present, try reeling your spinnerbait in until it bumps up against a stump, and then just let it drop. Be on the ready here, however, since the bass will often strike the spinnerbait while it is falling and when you least expect it.

Crankbaits are another excellent family of lures to use when working the edges. In most cases, you will be far better off using a shallow diver so you will not be constantly getting snagged on the bottom structure. If you're not equipped with shallow divers, you can get away with medium or deep divers, provided you use a slow twitch retrieve. This can be another time when the bass just might fool you into not being ready to set the hook. You see, with the floating-diving crankbait, the bass will often strike the lure when it is just floating up toward the water's surface. Most of us are ready for the strike when we are moving the lure, but when we stop the retrieve, we often relax and miss the bass.

It almost goes without saying that one of the most exciting lure families to use when working the edges is the family of surface agitators. These include such notables as the Jitterbug, Devil's Horse, Creek Chub's injured minnow and the Boy Howdy. All of these lures are designed to float on the water's surface, and are equipped with spoon faces to cause a gurgle sound when retrieved, or with small propellers that will sputter whenever the lure is twitched or reeled in.

The surface lures are a natural for working the shallows of the water's edge because they will simply float right over any underwater structure without getting snagged. The real excitement of fishing the surface agitators comes when the bass strikes. You not only get the pleasure of feeling the strike as you would with any other lure, but you are also rewarded with the excitement of seeing the bass strike your lure. When you see a nice bass erupt from the water and take your lure with its mouth wide open, your heart is guaranteed to skip a beat or two.

We all have those days when it seems no matter what we throw out there the bass just aren't biting. The next time you'll get the feeling that you are the only living creature either on or in the water, give those edges a try. Work the pattern all along the shoreline very thoroughly. You'll be surprised at just how well the bass begin to bite. Stick with it and you should at least catch a few bass. And even if you don't, you will feel a little bit better knowing that even though they may not be biting, you are at least fishing where they are!

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NEW YORK'S PARTY BOAT TUNA

by Brian Mulholland

The season is usually a short one and every trip is a gamble, but the potential for action is unlike anything else available to open boat anglers.

By September and October of the angling year, many New York fishermen are a bit sated with bluefish. They are always fun, but if your season's fishing has been good up to that point, you probably have more than enough fillets in the refrigerator to keep you satisfied for the rest of the year. Fluke fishing can get a little sparse; bass are available almost exclusively to nighttime sharpies. What else is really available?

A fishery that is little appreciated and perhaps under-utilized in the New York area is the short season for party boat tuna. These fish are not the giants often pictured decorating the transoms of Montauk charter boats. Rather, they are the smaller fish, generally under 50 pounds, that become available to the few party boats that make special trips for them in the Mud Hole area of the New York Bight in late August or September and sometimes until October.

Strictly speaking, one member of the tuna family is available for a longer season—the little tunny, known locally as albacore or false albacore. This speedster shows up often in warm summer water, sometimes as early as July but is more commonly found in August. Bluefish party boaters who are suitably equipped with a light line outfit (these fish are line shy) can do well with them. They are often mixed in with their smaller cousin, the Atlantic bonito. But neither of these fish grows to any great size. The bonito is good table fare, but is generally smaller than the bluefish among which you may find it. The false albacore is bigger, but it is the least edible of the tunas and requires extraordinarily fast gutting and bleeding to be usable as table fare. When served at all, it's usually as a component of salad or fish loaf.

The fishery that I am describing is a good deal more limited and the fish that it concerns are schooling bluefin and yellowfin tuna. To the best of my knowledge, bigeyes are caught so rarely (if at all) that they do not figure in this fishery.

This is blue water angling. Only the largest party boats are capable of making these trips which may extend beyond the edge of the Hudson Canyon. Due to the long runs, fare

Besting a bluefin like this aboard an open boat is the ultimate thrill in party boat angling.

prices go high: $120 to $150, though this is still a lot less than what an angler would have to pay for a share in a charter boat. A charter boat would offer considerable advantages and can troll where a party boat cannot; but the big boats offer an advantage for drifting bait when the weather turns foul.

Tackle for these expeditions is standardized with 4/0 to 6/0 reels and 50 pound line prevailing. Many of the anglers I've met are sufficiently taken by the entire business to have invested in heavy rods with roller guides and Penn 50 Internationals which they use for no other purpose. Since bluefish do turn up, as do the smaller tunas, a lighter back-up outfit is a good idea; but for the bluefin and yellowfin tuna that are the object of the expedition, tackle should be substantial. The largest fish I've seen landed was 83 pounds; bigger fish are possible.

On my last trip I joined 30 other anglers on the Tampa VI out of Sheepshead Bay for a long run to the edge of the Hudson Canyon. The Tampa VI is a beautiful boat and large by any standard—125 feet long and nicely fitted with padded seats for long trips such as this one. The weather was bad, severe enough to keep most other party boats at home that day. But the anglers on board, all of whom paid their fare in advance of the trip, were raring to go. We ran out to the edge of the Hudson Canyon, getting beaten about wonderfully by the weather in the process. Renting a 4/0 outfit from the boat, I joined three or four other anglers who rushed to start drifting dead whiting as soon as the boat was anchored. Ten minutes later, I had the first hook-up and the first cutoff. Within minutes virtually every one of the other anglers on board had been cut off as well, and the culprits were soon visible: blue sharks.

Tuna are fairly line shy. A wire leader would keep them off as surely as a DO NOT BITE sign. Fishermen had a choice: to fish with baited hooks and no steel leader for tuna or to tie on heavy wire and try for a shark. It speaks of the sophistication of that particular crew of anglers that at least a dozen of them were able to produce kidney harnesses and 12 foot cable leaders on a moment's notice from the tackle boxes. I stayed with bare line and during the course of the day was cut off five times. One fish I had may have been a tuna. I kept him on for 10 minutes, a little long for a toothy, rough skinned shark, but I lost this fish in a tangle with three other anglers (all of whom had fish on). It was not until late in the day that we saw the first tuna come on board, school bluefins in the 30 to 40 lb. class.

Small tuna are susceptible to jigging and the fish that came aboard were evenly divided between anglers drifting baitfish (we had whole butterfish and whiting) and those working large diamond or VIKe jigs. There seemed to be a general consensus that for tuna, as well as for bluefish, faster is better—you cannot retrieve fast enough. A high speed gear ratio such as 5 to 1 seems to be preferred by most jiggers.

Weather matters enormously to these fish as well. A bright, sunny day with little wave action puts the fish down; so an overcast day is preferable. The standard drill is to drift a whole bait fish, usually hooked through the nose, and to rubber band a sinker to the line in such a manner as to permit the sinker to fall free as soon as the fish takes the bait. A pause of 10 or 15 seconds before putting the reel in gear is recommended, but even the regulars have trouble agreeing as to how long is long enough. A clear sunny sky means few hook-ups, especially when fishing heavy line. For this reason, as well as for the sake of any little tunny or bluefish that can be taken, a back-up outfit with much lighter line is a good choice. But don't attempt to use it until the heavier stuff has proven unproductive. The mates will not love you if you take an hour to subdue a 40 pound fish on 30 pound line and keep everyone else tangled up or out of the water until you've done so.

As of this writing, only two party boats are definitely committed to this fishing, and both are out of Sheepshead Bay. The Tampa VI will be making these trips, by reservation, with payment in advance. The fee has not yet been set, but will be more than the $120 charged last year. Write the Tampa Fishing Corp., 86-20 Shore Parkway, Howard Beach, New York 1414 **and** call between 4 and 7 p.m., (212) 891-7775. Remember, these trips start when the fish do, so weekly calls starting in late August would be appropriate. The Betty W. III will also be making tuna trips at $150 a head. They are assembling a list of interested anglers who will be called when the fishing heats up. Phone (212) 769-9815 for further information.

This may prove an interesting year for tuna. The charter boats that operate offshore appear to be doing well. A friend who works as a mate on the Speedy VI notes that they have already taken the season's first bonito and yellowfin tuna have been reported as close by as the Patchogue Grounds. If the tuna season should be better than expected, other boats may join in the fishing (the Super Spray out of Freeport had made tuna trips before, although there is no plan now to do so this year), so an interested angler should pay attention to the ads.

The bluefin tuna is the acme of the Northeastern anglers' saltwater sport. Virtually no other fish comes in as wide a size range and is endowed across that range with such endurance, speed and superb reflexes. Few other fish grace a table as well as does the bluefin, whether baked or eaten raw as sushi. An angler who passes up this sport is missing the best that the New York Bight can offer.

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MERCURY OUTBOARDS

CRABBING: PLAIN & FANCY

by Jim Capossela

This article is for those who have never crabbed before, as well as for those who already know how to go out and get a mess of crabs. It is also for those wives—and husbands—who have ever wondered about the sometimes tricky procedures for keeping, storing and cooking crabs.

The first question a beginner is apt to ask is what type of crabs are available. There are only a few Atlantic Coast crabs harvested for food. In our area, the blue claw crab is overwhelmingly the most popular target, really the only target for sportsmen. Further, you will not usually catch other types of crabs (with a few exceptions) while pursuing the blue claw, although you may very well trap any one of a host of other beasts including jellyfish, eels, snapper blues, perch, killies and snapping turtles.

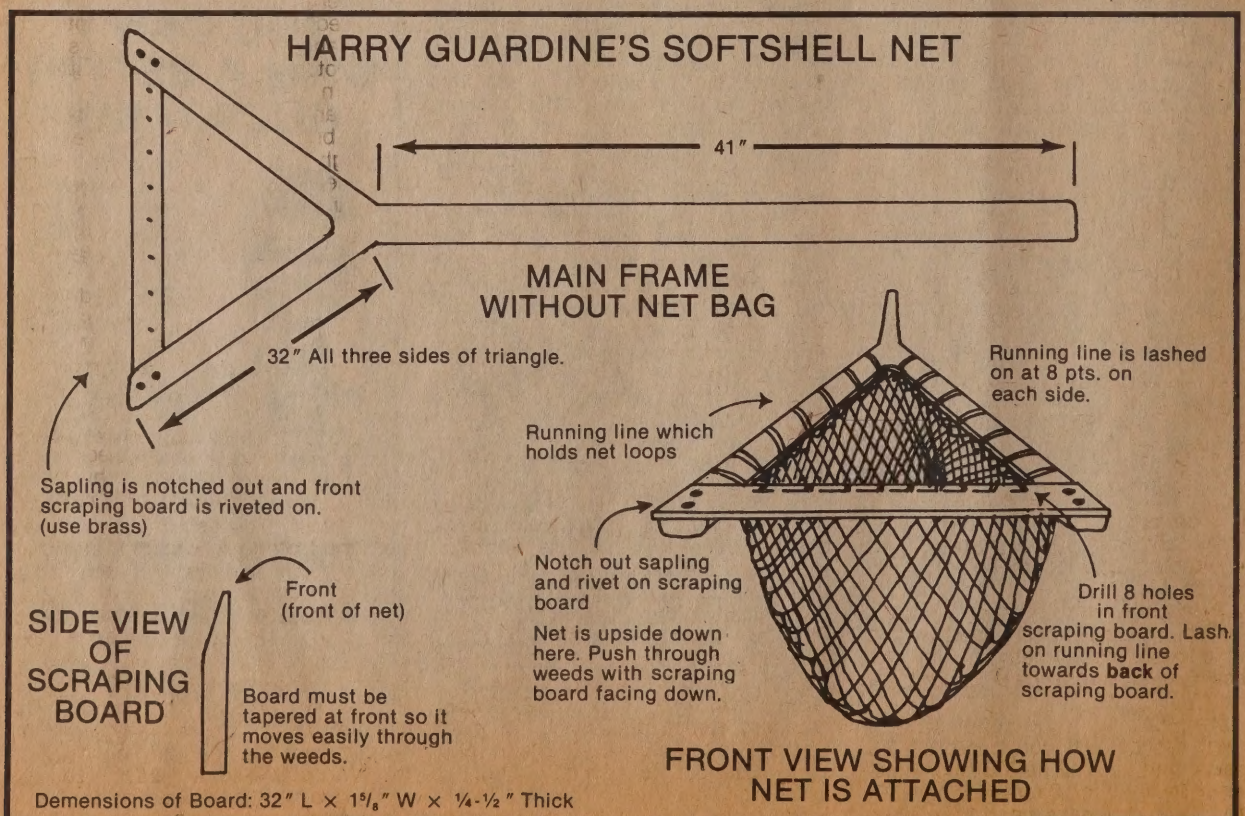
The second question a neophyte is apt to pose is **when** do you crab. This depends mainly on latitude. On Long Island, crabs are usually most available from mid-August through early October. Sometimes there will be a run earlier by a month or so, but almost always the crabs will be very small then. On this point, there are no size limits in New York, but I would call 4½ inches absolute minimum with 5 inches a more ethical keeper. There are no take limits for sportsmen either, but egg-bearing females do have to be returned. It is easy to distinguish a lady crab with eggs: a large darkish mass will be clearly protruding around her abdomen or "apron."

Although it probably won't pay to go early, it may very well pay to try late. Sometimes there is a quite amazing late run of crabs, and that has happened in recent years, perhaps because of the mild winters. Two years ago, flounder and blackfish anglers were accidentally hooking giant blue claws in South Shore bays, and crabbers who already mothballed their gear hauled it back out. Everyone had a ball almost through November.

Next would be **where** do you crab? Specific crabbing information is best obtained from your local bait and tackle dealer who will usually know what bridge, pier or creek is currently hot. The reports in The Fisherman, which do include crabbing, will also be very helpful.

To generalize, seek out tidal streams, or places where a tidal stream meets a large body of saltwater (such as a bay). For sure, try in the bay, especially around the mouths of streams. But also try well up the creek, as far as there is tidal action. If you do not have a boat, and cannot gain access to bay or creek, perch yourself on one of the numerous bridges that cross the creeks or one of the piers that project out into the bays.

Box traps constitute the number one sport crabbing method in northern waters. These six-sided devices, which sell for $5 to $6 each, are available in virtually all Long Island tackle stores during the crabbing season. When a box trap is lowered to the bottom, its doors open to allow the crabs to come in for the bait. When its


HARRY GUARDINE'S SOFTSHELL NET
41″
MAIN FRAME WITHOUT NET BAG
32″ All three sides of triangle.
Sapling is notched out and front scraping board is riveted on. (use brass)
Running line which holds net loops
Running line is lashed on at 8 pts. on each side.
Notch out sapling and rivet on scraping board
Net is upside down here. Push through weeds with scraping board facing down.
Drill 8 holes in front scraping board. Lash on running line towards back of scraping board.
FRONT VIEW SHOWING HOW NET IS ATTACHED
SIDE VIEW OF SCRAPING BOARD
Front (front of net)
Board must be tapered at front so it moves easily through the weeds.
Demensions of Board: 32″ L × 1⅝″ W × ¼-½″ Thick

rope is pulled taut, the doors (usually four, but sometimes two) snap shut to trap the crab(s). The trap is then re-baited, if necessary and tossed back in the drink for another go. If the crabs are running good, you may get a "double-header, or even a triple-header on any given pull. A half bushel—roughly 25 to 40 crabs depending on size—is a good day. A full bushel is a very good day.

Either string or wire can be used to fasten in the bait. Fish heads are excellent because they can be tied in through the bony eye socket. A fish head can last all day. The man in the fish store, by the way, may save you a bunch of heads and other goodies if you'll just ask him ahead of time.

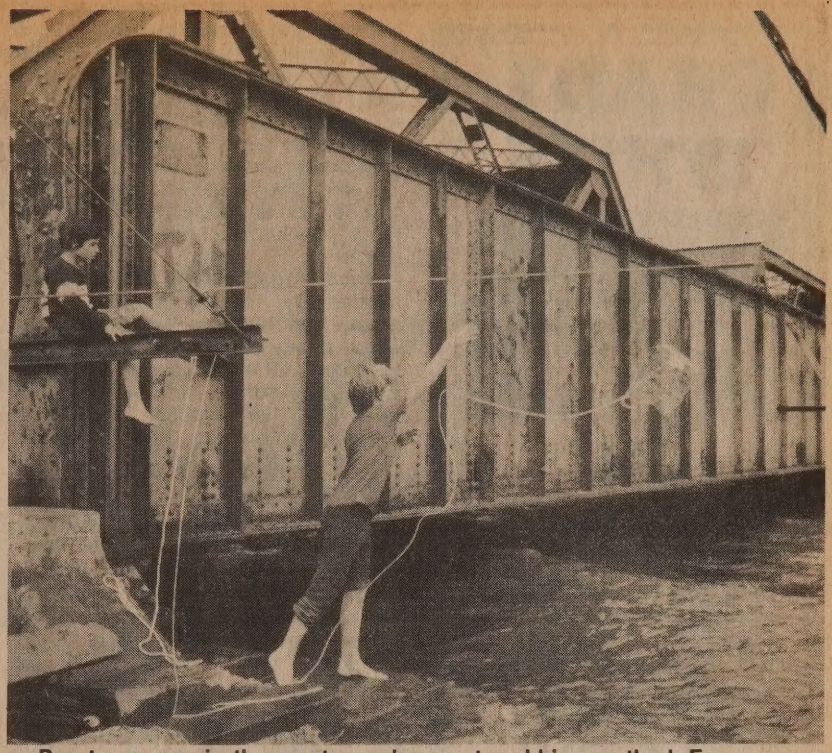
Almost any fish or hunk of meat (chicken included) will work at times, but every crabber has his own preferences. Mine are: eel, bluefish (whole snappers or heads of choppers), bunker, white perch, bluegills, whiting, killies.

I recommend the lower profile box traps that are becoming more and more popular each year. They stand only about 7 inches high, as opposed to 12 inches, and offer several advantages over the full-size box traps. Some box traps come already rigged, and some do not. If you have to rig your own, it will pay to remove the delicate little string they give you for the doors. Substitute a much sturdier 1/8 inch mason cord. For the running line, I recommend 1/4 inch polypropylene. This floating line has several advantages. For one thing, if you forget to tie the trap securely to bridge railing or whatever, and the trap goes sailing out into the bay, the floating line will allow you to retrieve it with a fishing pole, grappling hook (which I consider essential on crabbing trips) or even with another trap.

Handlining is a challenging method that people who stick to traps should try. All you need is a piece of strong string, usually no more than 30 feet in length, some sinkers of one to three ounces, and a scap net of 6 to 10 feet. Any type of fish can be attached to the working end of the line, but for reasons mentioned earlier, fish heads are ideal. Right next to the bait, tie on your sinker—this is to keep the bait down on bottom where the crabs are. Then all you do it tie the other end of the string to a stick or rock on shore, or in the shallows, and wait a few minutes. This is a dandy method for two crabbers. One pulls in the line slowly while the other scaps the crab as soon as it comes into view. When crabs are missed, arguments are inevitable and sometimes quite heated.

Tidal creeks with banks dry enough to stand on are the best places to work handlines. This method, in this locality, is the essence of crabbing to me.

Scap-netting is the simplest crabbing method. All you need is—you guessed ii—a scap net! Buy or make one at least 10 to 12 feet in length. By day, look for crabs on bridge abutments, old wooden pilings, pier supports, near weeds, and—where water visibility is good enough—swimming or gliding along on or just off bottom. At night try off of bridges, at either end of a canal or anywhere crabs might be "squeezed" through a relatively narrow passageway. Remember that during darkness, crabs are very active and often may be seen swimming along on the top. "Jack-lighting" crabs from a boat is a method popular in many places, as on Great South Bay.



Box traps remain the most popular sport crabbing method. For young and old alike, this type of sport involves very little expense or experience, but a great deal of fun.

There are some lesser-known methods for collecting old **Callinectes sapidus** ("the beautiful swimmer that is savory"). One day four of us drove down to Tom's River, New Jersey for a day of crabbing. We split up into two boats, and one of my pals in the other boat caught crabs all day long on a fishing pole! Previously I'd never seen that. Just hook on a good sized hunk of meat and when you feel a crab, reel it in slowly. The crab is then scapped just as if you were handlining.

"Jimmy Potting" is a ploy used in the springtime by commercial crabbers. Apparently, mature females that for some reason were not bred the previous fall get one more chance (biologically) the following spring. They are very anxious at this time, and will come into a pot that has been "baited" with a few live "jimmies," large male crabs. Some commercial crabbers, also in springtime, will even tie a big jimmie onto a tether and let it swim around. The jimmie will almost unfailingly pick up a female that is ready to be bred. The crabber then steals the jimmie's "wife" and sends his macho man back out for another try. And you thought discos were bad!

Potting, by the way, is the main commercial method. Some sport crabbers shy away from running pots for several, often good reasons. First, you need a boat. Second, the pots are heavy and most sport crabbers lack the "pot puller" most professionals have. In addition, many sport crabbers fear that pots, with their clearly visible buoys, will be stolen if left out overnight. If you have this latter apprehension, you should know that there are now time-release buoys that pop at the exact hour you want them to (just prior to your expected arrival, of course).

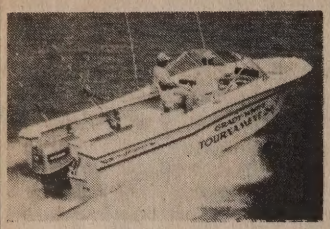
Trotlining is another method more sport crabbers should participate in. It is an important commercial method in places where potting is prohibited, as in upper Chesapeake Bay around Kent Island.

A troline is just a long piece of light rope to which bait is fastened every few feet. A tough bait—one the crabs can't devour so quickly—is mandatory. Most pros use tough skinned eel. The trotline is weighted at either end by heavy anchors, and each end is marked with a buoy. The crabber simply "works the line," scapping the clinging crabs as he goes. On professional crabbing boats, a kind of boom extends out over the gunnel to lift the trotline as the boat drifts parallel to it. Sport crabbers can simply work the line hand over hand, but it does take some getting used to.

To get back to sexploitation for a

(Continued on next page.)

GRADY-WHITE



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minute: sometimes my father will bait a regular box trap with a female crab. He just ties the female in with a piece of string and male crabs do seem to be attracted. I'm not sure if the jimmies come in out of curiosity or for reasons steamier than that.

I am always asked how a sport crabber can collect softshells. It is a tough problem, but not an impossible one.

You can gather in a few softshells incidentally while crabbing with traps, handlines or whatever. One way is to pay attention to the shallows of the body of water you are crabbing. Sometimes softies will make a mistake and not conceal themselves properly when the time to moult arrives. (Note: A softshell is not a separate species, as the uninitiated often suspect. Rather, it is simply that stage of the blue claw in-between moults.) At times I have spied vague shapes in the shallows and become suspicious. Often, close inspection has revealed a softshell buried only partially in the mud or weeds.

Another way is to check all the "doublers" you find. A doubler or "buck and rider" is a male crab carrying a smaller female crab that he has just bred or is about to breed. Since a female crab can only breed immediately after what is usually the final moult of her life, it is likely that the female of such a pairing is about to shed within a very short time. If you can keep the female alive, often for as little as a few hours, you may be rewarded with a softshell.

Commercial men know how to "read" a crab. In other words, they can tell by certain markings whether the crab will shed in just a few hours, within a day, or within a few days. They take these "ripe" crabs and keep them in well oxygenated troughs until the moulting takes place. The troughs, or less commonly these days floats, are fished everyday and the softshells are immediately shipped to market. You can learn to read a crab, but that still leaves the question of some kind of oxygenated tank. Unless you are a real salt and live on the water, large-scale softshell harvesting is probably out of your reach.

There is another way to skin the cat, though. It revolves around a special kind of net used by old-time commercial crabbers.

The net depicted in the accompanying diagram was designed and made by Henry "Harry" Guardine, who has fished the Hudson River commercially for 65 years (at the age of over 80, he's still at it!). Harry has forgotten more about fishing, crabbing, nets and net mending—not to mention carpentry and boat building—than most people could ever hope to know.

The main framework of the net is really nothing but a big forked stick. It is cut from a live, branching sapling—Harry recommends ash. The overall height of the net is 5½ feet; the depth of the bag, which uses a 2¾ inch stretch mesh, is about 4½ feet. The thickness of the sapling should be about 3 to 3½ inches at the base of the handle tapering downward accordingly. Other construction details are on the diagram.

This net is pushed quickly through clumps of weeds by a crabber who wades along quietly in the shallows. Stick to weed clumps that are not too dense, and especially try in the weeds just outside the cattails after the cattails have been left high and dry by a receding tide. Not only will you pick up a few true softshells this way, you'll also pick up doublers, busters (crabs in the act of shedding), peelers or red signs (crabs just about to shed) and even a few hard crabs.

Of course, very few people know how to mend a net these days, let alone knit one. If you have that skill, or know someone who might, Harry recommends #346 multi-filament nylon for the netting. For the front scraping board, he recommends oak. Even if you can't duplicate this net exactly, a reasonable fascimile could get you going towards more softshell dinners.

Crabs and lobsters should only be cooked (or bought!) live. This is your verification that they are good, because shellfish spoil very rapidly after they die. During the day, keep crabs in a bushel basket covered with a dripping wet piece of burlap. Dip the basket in the water often. Never keep crabs in any container of water unless there is a source of oxygen.

There is no good reason to try and keep the crabs alive any longer when reaching home. Cook them immediately. If you don't feel like eating or picking the meat at once, clean the crabs down to bodies and claws and store in the coldest part of the refrigerator no more than three days. Similarly, the meat can be picked out and used in the recipe of your choice up to three days later. **Never** allow cooked crabs to come into contact with any object that touched or held live crabs. Contamination could occur.

To my mind, steaming is a cruel method that results in a slow death. I boil my crabs, adding two at a time and allowing the pot to return to the boil before adding more. This kills the crabs more or less instantly. You can add the well-known Old Bay Seasoning or any combination of spices you want, and these will slightly flavor the meat. Boiled crab tastes as good as steamed crab to me, though there might be some slight loss of texture. Boil only for about 15 minutes, then let the meat "rest" in the pot another 15 (this lets the meat relax).

I use two big pots to speed up the process, which I undertake outside on top of my camp propane stove. Saves a gigantic mess in the kitchen, as well as domestic problems.

Editor's Note: Jim Capossela is author of the book, "How to Catch Crabs by the Bushel" which is available by sending $3.95 + $.75 postage to Northeast Sportsman's Press, Box 188, Tarrytown, NY 10591. It is also available through The Fisherman Library.

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BY FRED GUARDINEER

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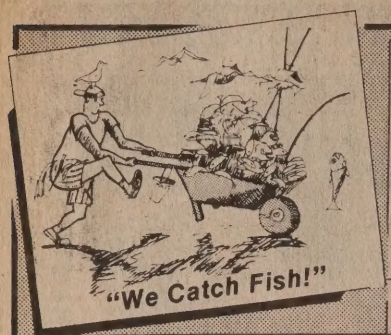

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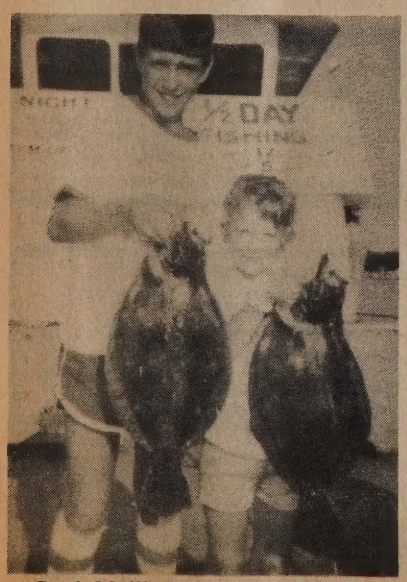
East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Offshore, early week action in tuna slowed down for the weekend. Two 900 lb. plus blue marlin were brought into **Captain's Cove Marina.** Fluke action, while good inshore and in Shinnecock has been totally destroyed by commercial draggers at Block Island. Porgies are picking up at Montauk and are quite numerous, although small in the Peconics. Bluefish are everywhere taking bait and jigs. Codfish is excellent at Coxes Ledge. Increased reports of blackfish and sea bass with fall weather approaching. School weakfish holding strong in Noyac Bay.

MONTAUK

Chiropractor Dr. Mel Kanan and his friend Phil of New York City tried Coxes Ledge during the week and manipulated approximately 80 cod into their boat. The fish averaged 10 to 12 lbs. with a few pushing 35 lbs. Lots of blues being brought into **Gone Fishing Marina,** according to Maureen Sennefelder. John Daidone and his son jigged 30 blues to 10 lbs. fishing on Saturday south of the Light in rather windy conditions. Divers from the marina lamented on the scar scarcity of striped bass in their usual



Paul Mellinger with a 6½ lb. fluke and 7-year-old James Pomerantz with a 7 pounder. Both were taken aboard the Montauk based "Viking Starship."

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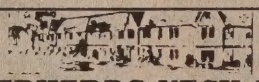

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haunts. Fluke remain good at Gin Beach and off the houses at Ditch Plains. However, Arnold Fox won't reveal the location of his special fluke spot where he took an 8¾ lb. plus a 12 lb. doormat this past week. In spite of the scarcity of sharks, Joe Morgano and his crew connected with a 191 lb. mako on Tuesday, fishing south of the Light on the family boat, Mongo Joe.

Captain Bill Ricca of the **Alyssa Ann** remarked that tuna fishing is on the slow side, however, on the plus side, large blues are hot and heavy at Cartwright with bait taking the edge on jigs. The blues range up to 18 lbs. Captain Ricca further stated that porgies and sea bass are picking up. On Sunday, a four man charter led by Richard Scott, loaded up with 71 blues to 18 lbs. by 11AM fishing various locations and then filled the box with jumbo porgies to 3½ lbs. plus numerous sea bass.

At **Captain's Cove Marina** Joan said the fluke are pretty good at the south side. Blues are good with larger fish at Cartwright, smaller blues at North Rips and the Elbow. Locally, offshore tuna were a bit slow the past week. **Tuna Tangler** on an extended week long trip to Noman's, boated 4 giants in 5 days. Last Tuesday, a blue marlin was taken on the Connecticut charter boat, **Sea Weed II** and weighed in at Captain's Cove Marina. The fish was taken on a 50 lb. rod, 100 lb. mono on a trolled green machine in 42 fathoms south of the Point, by angler Mickey Kreitovich of Vernon, Ct. The fish, 14 ft. 4 inches long, topped the scales at 940 lbs. Captain Gregg DuBrule is still on cloud 9!

As we went to press, The Fisherman received a report of yet another blue marlin that was hooked up on Sunday night and landed after a 2½ hour fight on Capt. Dave Kohlus charter boat, Hooker. The fish was take on an artificial lure fished on a 130 Penn International spooled with 400 lb. Japanese mono line, north of the Fishtails. T.J. Fulton, of Pleasantville, NY was the happy angler on this over 14 foot long marlin which weighed 921 lbs. at **Captain's Cove Marina** on Monday.

The **Marlin IV** is concentrating its daytime efforts to porgies and sea bass, while murdering the blues at night.

Porgy action on the **Flying Cloud** continues to build day by day as the porgies are coming out of the bay into the Sound where the boat is now fishing. Porgy action is giving satisfaction! On the **Little Bear**, no names, no numbers—just great-for-table-action. COME ON DOWN!

On the **Viking Fleet** boats, the news is the same: very good porgies at Noman's; big fluke inshore, although not many. Fantastic bluefishing at night, Coxes Ledge cod very good. Patchogue Fishing Club junior member Artie Felice fished with his mother on a rough day this past week for his first codfish ever with a 10 lb. bluefish as a bonus.

Henry **Uihlein** spoke of lots of fluke

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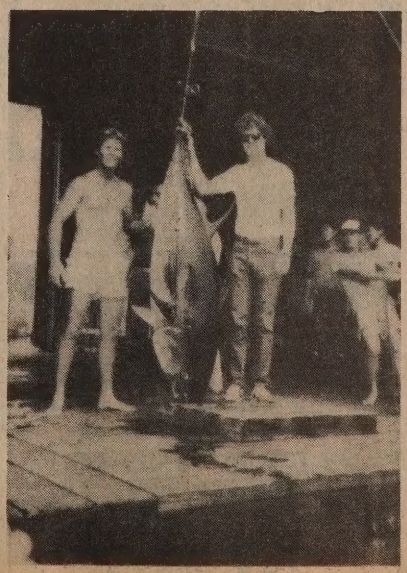

Glenn Powell, on right, landed a 300 lb. bluefin, a pair of yellowfins and a white marlin during a recent trip aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Adios."

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taken by anglers on his rental skiffs this week. On Wednesday, Bill Ryder picked all day for 35 keepers and as many shorts using squid and sand eels. On Sunday, Drs. Friedman and Scott fished in 10 to 15 feet of water near Blackfish Rock for 11 fluke to 5 lbs. Saturday's winds kept many boats in the harbor. Jack Giquinta and his family used clams, fishing Lake Montauk for 40 flounder from 1 to 1½ lbs., along with all the snappers they cared to catch.

Captain Phil Lewis reports tuna fishing on the **Adios** very good the beginning of the week. On Monday, the Nill brothers from Nill Roofing Co. of Riverhead had a good day, with four bluefin and 4 yellowfin tuna to 150 lbs. chummed in the Butterfish hole. On Tuesday, Tom Violagis of East Meadow's Wine Gallery, enjoyed the same number of tuna, however a bit smaller in size. Wednesday's catch for Alan Miller was 5 bluefin in the 40 to 50 lb. range.

Captain Fred Lair confirmed the slowdown in tuna action at the end of the week. However, on Sunday a vacationer from Vermont did catch a couple of albacore on his first saltwater trip on the **Eagle**. Saturday's group led by John Hogan of Middletown, NY loaded up on blues at Cartwright, however, the highlight of the day was a "sea serpent"—an eel, 4 feet long, weighing 8½ lbs. which took herring bait meant for blues.

Edelman's Lou Rosado fished on the Bullet on Friday for Cartwright blues, enjoying constant action. Two hours of fishing used up all the herring bait and produced over 60 blues with as many lost at boatside. Teenagers Paul and Timmy Davidson, their dad, Don, with Deacons Earl Roe and Mike O'Connor fished 10 oz. Cartwright rigs, baited with herring for most of the blues, 10 to 18 lbs. in size. When the bait was gone, the new Ultimus lures, 8 oz. with a green tail appeared to work as well.

Captain Joe McBride found offshore action—sharking in particular a little slow; however, Frank Manning trolled bluefin tuna to 55 lbs. on the **My Mate** over the weekend. Cartwright and/or the south side holds plenty of medium size blues; a good bet is to fish in 30 feet of water off the trailer park or cottages on the south side. Fluking is very good in some areas, although subject to heavy pressure by local draggers. Captain McBride is now booking fall tuna and is anticipating a fall bass bonanza. Check the ad for details.

A lot of concern has been expressed regarding the intrusion by some commercial draggers on traditional recreational fishing spots since spring. The Montauk Captain's Association feels that all fishing interests should be aware of this problem and efforts made to keep these areas separate.

Captain Fred Laier had tuna action on the **Eagle** last weekend. A party of four headed by Wayne Alexander

connected with 2 bluefin in the 65 lb. range and Pete Sirasole brought home two yellowfin tuna. Captain Fred had a few available days in September and October for tuna charters. Call him for information.

Captain Steve Mauss used 12 oz. Cartwright rigs, baited with herring to connect with a boatload of Cartwright blues to 17 lbs. for Carmine Carrizales on the **Kraken II** early in the week. Chunking at the Butterfish Hole produced a 75 lb. yellowfin, two blues of 30 and 35 lbs., and a small brown shark with Robert Vecchio and friends last Tuesday. Captain Mauss remarked that fluke seem to be picking up and that porgy action is increasing.

On the **Montauk**, Capt. Mike Albronde remarked that Cartwright blues are excellent with the best class of blues he has seen in quite awhile. Over the weekend, Tom Ludwinski and his friends caught over 100 blues, all over 15 lbs. Captain Mike stated that tuna fishing seems to be off a bit, however, on Thursday Andrew Grahm used diamond jigs for seven bluefin in the 20 to 40 lb. range. Mike remarked that there seem to be acres of bait over the butterfish hole, this weekend, with lots of skittish tuna, unwilling to take a hook. One of the few tuna taken on Sunday fell to Jim George on the family boat Craps-3. Jim fished "Never-Never Land" for his 198 lb. bluefin. A blue marlin teased the anglers but was not caught! Captain Mike asked me to remind you that the **Montauk** is now booking for fall blackfish and has a few dates open for mid-October.

Arie Vandermellan and his group caught 22 albacore, 2 yellowfin and one bluefin tuna on the **Joy-Sea** on an early week charter. On Sunday, Brian Kelly bagged 6 albacore and yellowfin along with a load of bluefish.

SOUTH FORK

Wilhelric porgies are still RED HOT! Sizes of the fish vary from place to place, from jumbo to medium, however everyone has at least a bucketful. Saturday's porgy trip found jumbos, with most fishermen catching 50-60 fish per person. After Labor Day, the **Wilhelric** will fish for porgies six days a week, with Wednesdays given over to blackfish.

Captain Artie Lach had scheduled a special fluke trip for this past Sunday to Block Island. As all fluke specialists know, the fish gang up here to feed this time of year before making their trip to winter over in the continental shelf. The special trip was, of course, sold out. In order to drop right on the fish without searching, Capt. Lach hired a scout to inform him about the exact location of the fish. The trip to Block Island never came about, despite the best weather of the summer. Apparently the area was completely cleaned out by draggers,

Ken Kiseli teamed with friend Steve Micciche and Captain Bob Rocchetta of the Montauk charter boat "Rainbow" to whip this 602 lb. giant bluefin south of Block Island.

working day and night, taking fluke to 21 lbs. Expert fishermen who tried the area during the week only found 2-3 fish per boat!

The **Wilhelric** fished Promised Land, instead, and did pick up a few fluke, however, when the first fish were netted aboard the **Wilhelric**, a dragger dropped his nets within casting distance of the party boat. Capt. Lach reported as many as 10 draggers working over fluke (mostly shorts) as far as one could see from Promised Land to Montauk on Sunday. We all must abide by the 14 inch limit on fluke. Hooked fish are generally returned to the water alive while netted shorts are shoveled over dead. Our state legislators can write legislation in this area. In fact Assemblyman John Behan is interested in hearing your views and personal experiences regarding dragger activity. Contact him at Plaza P.O. Drawer RRR, Montauk, NY 11954. Call him at 668-5656. John Chard, his aid, has been assigned to this project.

Helen Jacobson has noticed an increase in porgy catches on the rentals from **Noyack Marina** in Noyack this week. On Saturday, Carmelo Medina, Egard Colon, Jr and Sr, and Angel Louis Santiago anchored their rental skiff at Buoy 15, and used clams and worms for 120 good size porgies. The next day, another group caught over 200 porgies in the same spot. Elmhurst residents Anthony Cifarelli and his son fished south of Buoy 17, east of Jessups with squid and worms on their porgy hooks to catch a couple of school weakfish, five fluke, a kingfish, and some dogfish along with 40 porgies. The pair landed these fish, despite the fact that they had no net along on the trip. All fishing was on the outgoing tide. Helen asked me to remind you that the **Marina's** month long fishing contest, open to rental boats, will begin on September 1st. Prizes will be

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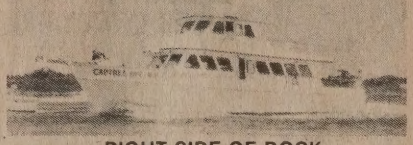

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awarded for the largest fish taken on a rental boat during the month of September, with all species eligible (porgies, blues, weaks, etc.). **Noyack Marina** will now open at 7am seven days a week.

Thom Speckenback noted that weakfishing continues surprisingly well, with one angler accounting for 25 school weaks brought into **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in Southampton over the weekend. Best place to try is Nassau Point, using squid. Small porgies are in Noyack Bay, the South Race and between buoy 28-30 according to Thom. Shinnecock has lots of fluke, with a larger percentage of shorts now. However, one angler did catch a 3½ lb. fluke on clam bait using a porgy rig. Large bluefish have been caught at the Shinnecock Sea Bouy, and there was a rumor of a large mako hooked and then dropped at boatside over the weekend. One might try Mecox pond in search of blueclaw crabs. Snappers are everywhere, taking anything. Somehow, a 32 foot cabin cruiser managed to get beached on the rocks at the east jetty over the weekend! This, in calm conditions.

RoseMary Malone feels that fluke action slowed up in Shinnecock this past week due to the moon tide, however larger fish started to show, as evidenced by the 5 lb. fluke taken on the **Jenny Rose** Friday evening. On Saturday evening, Alice Mohlenhoff, president of the Lady Reelers, Long Island's all woman fishing club, won the pool with a 2¾ lb. fluke. Saturdays wreck trip saw plenty of sea bass and blackfish. Jerry Bauen, and Adrianne Civelli of Bridgehampton teamed up for a catch of 67 seabass on Saturday's trip.

Captain Don VanDeWater fished a mixed bag on the **Dutch Treat** this past week. On Wednesday, Jack Finkenburg kept 14 fluke out of 40 caught in two hours of fishing time. The fish ranged to 3 lbs. Saturday's offshore trip to 40 fathoms with Steve Kopec, his wife and uncle resulted in three tuna (2 longfin albacore to 40 lbs., one 25 lb. yellowfin) with about two dozen blues. On Sunday, Don Gordon fished on the **Dutch Treat** for bluefish feeding on anchovies and butterfish just inside the sea buoy. The catch of over two dozen 6-14 lb. blues was made trolling white tubes, or jigging ava jigs with green tails.

Although offshore conditions were bad much of the week, some tuna and also Dolphin of 32 and 36 lbs. were caught in 150 to 180 ft. of water out of Shinnecock according to Micky at **Altenkirch & Son** in Hampton Bays. Micky spoke of plenty of big bluefish just inside the Sea Buoy. Bay action is in fluke and snappers. No news on bass or weaks.

Trolling techniques, using umbrella rigs will be the subject on Fishing Forecast this Friday 6pm, Saturday 5pm on Brookhaven Cable TV as a follow-up to last week's demonstration of Sekora rigs by Captain Steve Sekora. Look for repeat of the

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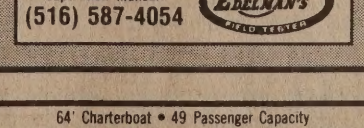

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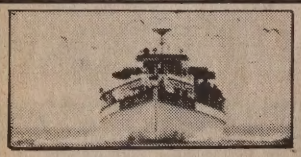

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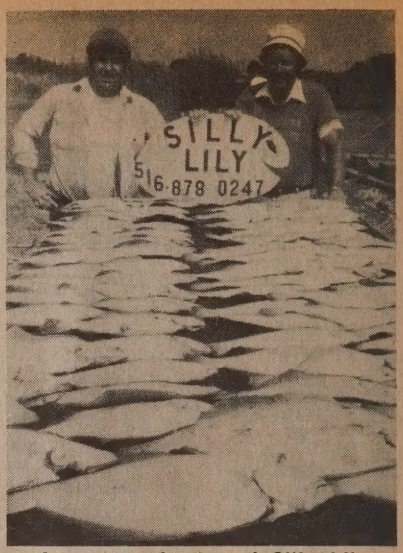
Starship's George's Banks Codfish trip on Sept. 21st, with tips on rigging up for this type of codfishing!

South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Fluke continue to please hordes of anglers in this area with lots of small fish still the rule. Tide plays an important role in the amount of action with the last half of the flood and the top of the outgoing producing best in both bays and inlets. Bluefish are within easy reach of both inlets with good catches made as close as 40 feet of water in recent days. Unfortunately the fish are on the move and must be relocated each day.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Very good fluking last half of incoming and first part of the outgoing according to Gary Grunseich of **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**. This weekend saw the tide fall in the early morning hours so early bird anglers had the best of the fishing. Next weekend presents a much better tide situation. Ratio of shorts to keepers varies from 2 or 3 to 1 with a good sprinkling of 3-5 pound fish showing up in Sunday's catches. Action is spread from buoy 29 to buoy 39. On Sunday, Matt, John and Diane Viol teamed to take 40 keepers. The two largest were 5.3 and 4.8 pounds and were taken on snappers. Gary noted taht the bigger fish seem to be coming from deep water near buoys 33 and 34. Spearing and squid work well on the fish though snappers, live or dead seem to be the ticket for some of the bigger flatties. Lots of snappers around.



A recent trip out of Silly Lily Fishing Station in E. Moriches produced a catch of 90 fluke for "sharpies" Helmuth Rich and Cooney Sigloch.

Over at **L & M Marine** in **East Moriches**, Larry Dallaire spoke of a similar keeper ratio with a sprinkling of 4 pound class fish during the week at the Elbow an the New Cut. Also some good action this week at buoy 29. Larry also emphasized the importance of the tide noting that the best action occurs on the last half of the flood. Sandeel or killie and squid combos working well.

Yellowfin and bluefin tuna up to 100 pounds were in evidence SW of the Inlet in 110' of water early in the week but were often tough to catch. Plenty of bluefish to the west of the inlet in 40-60' of water, many which ran 12-14 pounds. Blues are also at the Sea Buoy where they are being trolled and jigged.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** had an impressive largemouth bass to report. Fishing Patchogue's Mill Pond during the week, Joe Modica connected with a 5.10 pound black bass. On the saltwater scene, snappers appear to be creating the biggest stir on the local docks. Crabs have been disappointing although one tin boater stopped by on Saturday with a load of the biggest blue claws they had seen in years. Where they were caught was left unanswered. John Tollarini aboard his Patchogue Queen did well trolling bluefish on wire line between Davis Park and Watch Hill. These fish averaged 6-8 pounds. Fluking remains good with lots of small fish still dominating catches. Flood tide accounts for the best scores.

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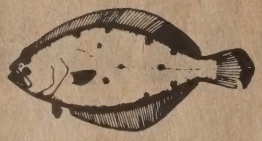

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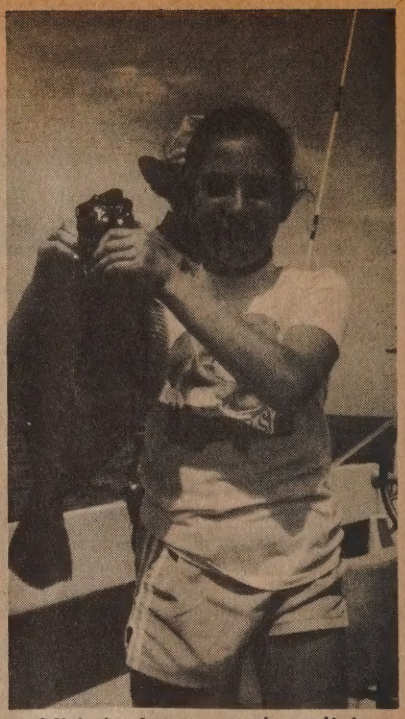


Michele Avosso used smelt to take this 3¼ lb. fluke near Kismet in Great South Bay. It was taken aboard the family boat.

Word of very good action with yellowfin tuna at the Tower on Sunday came from Al Colban at **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale.** Boats working the Canyon had good action with yellowfins and bigeyes also on Sunday. An impressive mako was landed on Sunday by John Bellow while bluefishing in 110' of water SE of the Inlet. The 500 pounder showed up in the chum slick, a heavy outfit was put over the side and in short order, the crew was hooked up. The biggest fluke brought into the shop this weekend was a 5½ pounder taken on a snapper by Bryan Krut. Four year old Kevin Grane's fluke was not as impressive in the size department but the circumstances made the catch a memorable one. Fishing from a local pier, the young angler used only a snapper pole to land a 3½ pound fluke. The private boat And How kept 25 fluke out of the 60 they landed working between the Lighthouse and the Inlet on Sunday. Al also reported porgies and sea bass on the ocean reef and good numbers of small weaks on nightcrawlers or squid strips at buoys 4-5, Heckscher, Buoy 3, Sayville and Buoy 15.

Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore** also noted the good tuna action in the vicinity of the Texas Tower on Sunday. Fluking remains status quo with the best fishing on the flood tide and lots of shorts still the rule. Live snappers are accounting for a few larger fish near the Inlet. Ocean Beach has a mixture of porgies and sea bass for those using a chum pot loaded with skimmer clams. Also lots of porgies from the Bay Shore Marina dock on sandworms. Snappers here in very good supply but crabs have been small and in general disappointing.

Over at **Captree** bluefishing in recent days has become a bit erratic with an occasional off night as well. Tuna have made the blues on the Patchogue Grounds area jittery with skippers reportedly marking lots of fish but having a tough time catching them. Lots of choppers around. Everyone is optimistic that the fishing will pop right back into form. Some of the fishing is being done as close as 2 or 3 miles from the Inlet.

Fluke remain abundant with tide being the biggest consideration. By far the best fishing is on the last half of the incoming. Many of the fish are still shorts but they make for plenty of action, filling in the time between keepers. September annually provides the best fluke fishing as the fish drop out of the bay and concentrate in deep water near the Inlet. Based on the exceptionally high number of fish in the Bay this summer, this September may provide some really unbelievable fluking. Unfortunately, many anglers give up on the fluke chase before the best action occurs.

Capt. Joe Libertino of the **Captree**

charter boat **Prime Time** fished a party of 25 from Fishkill, NY headed by Bob Hahn on Saturday. Working SW of Fire Island Inlet off of the outflow pipe, the group used Ava 27 jigs with green tubes to put away 35 blues in the 4-6 pound class and an 8 pound weakfish.

Aboard the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3**, Capt. George Tweedy reported that bluefish action tapered off the last few days though most nights are still good. Friday, Satur day and Sunday saw picky action which the skipper attributes to large numbers of tuna spooking the chop-pers. Lots of bonito around and mix-ing with the blues. Jimmy Golden leads the boat's bluefish derby with a 16.6 pound slammer.

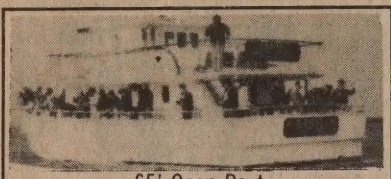
Capt. Carl Passero of the **Captree** open boat **Miss Captree** said that morning fluke trips had the edge over afternoon trips this week due to the tide situation. Fishing on the flood has been producing an average of 5-8 keepers per fare with lots of shorts being taken as well. Sam Small had 10 keepers to 3 pounds on Saturday morning's trip. Carl also felt that ex-cessive boat traffic was responsible for the slight drop in the weekend ac-tion.

Capt. Rod Westerlind of the open boat **Capt. Rod** said that fluking con-tinues to hold up well with the last half of the flood the key to the best action. Fish are well spread from West Channel all the way to the Inlet with lots of shorts but a noted im-provement in the keeper ratio on Sun-day. Also some 3 pounders showing up in catches in recent days. Rod noted that September should be a banner month with light crowds and plenty of fluke making for some fine fishing. Rod also noted that an occa-sional blowfish and sea bass is begin-ning to mix with the fluke on an almost daily basis.

Over at the **Captree Bait Shop**, Bob-by Sprenger said that fluke are being taken on killies from Fishermens Walk. They range up to 3 pounds with the majority being shorts. Killies are taking these fish. Also a few fluke at the Jones Beach piers with flounder fishing having died there. Snapper fishing very good from both docks and Bob reminded that the shop has a Snapper Derby set for September 8 and 9 at Captree and at Jones Beach. You can register at either shop on the days of the contest. Registration is free and everyone is eligible to enter with 3 age categories (adults includ-ed) representing a total of 36 prizes between both shops.

Fred Austin of **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** teamed with Ed Finn aboard the latter's Cross Bones on Friday. Working the Texas Tower area they accounted for 8 yellowfin tuna. Aboard Bob Jessen's Bluewater, an overnight canyon trip resulted in 3 bigeyes between 120 and 140 pounds, 4 yellowfins and 15 longfins. Blues have been just a short ride east and west of the inlet but the fish move around and are usually in a different

BABYLON



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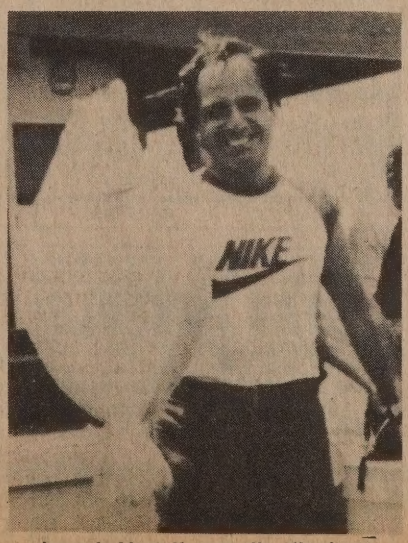

Joseph Napoli proudly displays a husky doormat taken on the Captree open boat, "Capt. Gillen." The 8¼ pounder took a live killy.

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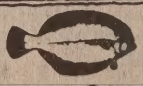
BAIT  BOATS

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area each day. Water depths range from 40-60 feet. Steve and David Mangold fished in 60' of water SW of the Inlet on Friday. They used Ava jigs to put away 4 weaks and 3 blues in the 7-8 pound class. There are lots of porgies, sea bass and small weaks in West Channel with clam or bunker chum best for the porgies. Lots of fluke around with the best action on the flood tide. The majority are still shorts. Snappers very good at the Village Dock but crabs seem to be disappointing most people.

Sunday saw a good body of 10-15 pound bluefish located in 65-70 feet of water south of Cherry Grove, according to Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**. Ed and Sal Lecce caught 20 of the fish on jigs and poppers when the fish came to the surface later in the day. They also reported seeing a big tuna among the blues. Some good action with blues west of the Inlet this week in 40-50 feet of water. Most ranged from 5-10 pounds. Lots of fluke from the Lighthouse to the Inlet with many shorts among them. Occasional 4-6 pound fish being taken on snappers. Largest of the weekend was a 6¾ pounder taken by a shop regular in the Inlet on Saturday. Big weakfish are being picked on live snappers near the WR Buoy on incoming and near the Construction Dock on outgoing water. The early part of the week saw a good showing of 2-3 pound blues on the surface near Sexton Island. Snappers are all over the place but everyone is moaning about the poor crabbing. Best bet for blueclaws is working the abuntments of the Captree Bridge after midnight when traffic is at a minimum.

Over at **Z Crab Tackle** in **Copaigue**, Ralph Angelillo continues to make the most of his days off. On Wednesday, he and a friend elected to drift Jellyworms near the WR Buoy and despite a tough wind managed ½ dozen weaks in the 7-8 pound class. Same day, Joan Rankin had weaks of 10 and 6 pounds. Barry Turano used clam chum and squid strips in West Channel to take a mess of porgies up to 3.1 pounds. Better than that, he also put away 15 weaks between 3 and 4 pounds. Offshore fishing saw some good tuna action at the Tower on Sunday. Cedar Jigs were working well on the fish. Snappers very good at Tanner Park although crabbing continues slow. Best catch at the dock this week was a 2½ pound kingfish landed by one of the local youngsters.

Reporting from **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**, Scott Smyth told of some good catches of fluke made between the Sore Thumb and the Bell Buoy on outgoing water. On Sunday, Tom and Marie Albarino kept 9 of the 15 they landed. Largest was a 5.2 pounder which took a bucktail and squid combo. Porgie fishing has been good at West Channel for fish ranging from ¾ to 2 pounds. Two to five pound class weakfish are mixed with them. Patchogue Ground bluefish

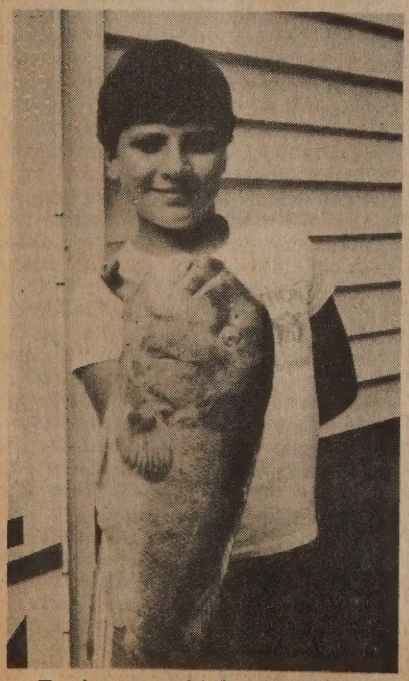
were iffy through most of the week with Scott noting that Saturday and Saturday night were particularly poor. This he knew from first hand experience.

Over at **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale**, Frank reported that Carmine Donarumma of the Bali put his brother Angelo on his first mako Saturday. The 160 pounder was taken near the NA buoy. Fluke fishing continues good on the flood near the inlet with some improvement noted in the size of the fish being taken. Blues in the 3-8 pound class were trolled on green tubes in 40 feet of water south of Gilgo on the weekend while school bluefin tuna continue to cavort in the 90' depths SE of Fire Island Inlet. A weakfisherman who preferred anonymity checked in a 26 pound striper taken from Great South Bay on Friday while weakfishing.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

The big item in this area continues to be the good to excellent bluefishing day and night with a certain degree of cooperation from the weatherman. From all appearances things seem to



Twelve-year-old Robert Delach landed this 7¼ lb. blackfish near the Fire Island Coast Guard Station. He was fishing aboard the private boat, Polish Princess.

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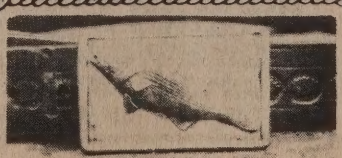

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be leading into a strong fall bluefishing season with gorillas into the low 20s almost a certainty in the weeks to come. Fluking continues its good pace, so-so in the keeper department. Offshore continues to come alive while blue claw crabs are really taking a vacation this year as they certainly don't seem to be in town. Snappers galore.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

From **Pop's Fishng Station** in Seaford John tells of continued good fluke action on both sides of the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh bridges, incoming tide best on killies, squid, sand eels or spearing. Jack and Cindy Facdermeyer along with Jack and Randy Fressler totalled 21 keeper fluke at buoy 9 which is east of the 2nd and 3rd Wanatgh bridges. Twenty-four and twenty-five inch stripers along with 1 to 2 lbs. blues have been jigged in Bulkhead Drain and also being taken on killies and on sand worms. Lots of fluke in Island Creek channel with a 1/3 keeper ratio. Snappers are all over the place while there are few bccs but those taken are big.

We learned from **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** of plenty of fluke and plenty of shorties. However, a 4 and a 4½ lb. fluke were brought in and weighed on the weekend. Best areas have been Squaw Island and Massapequa Cove. Snapper action has been excellent wiht a few bccs caught.

According to George at **Nick's Fishing Station in** Merrick, there's been plenty of fluke with just a few keepers. Best spots have been Merrick Point and the golf course. During the half hour of slack water more and bigger keepers are obliging in Broad Creek.

A call from the charter boat **Lady J III** told of Monday's trip for fluke for Frank Caprise and party, who picked away in the waters to the west. Tuesday's fluke trip for Coleman Day camp picked away locally. On Wednesday a bluefish trip for the Barry Palmieri group worked jigs in 20 feet of water from Jones Inlet to Jones tower and loaded up on 1 to 5 lb. blues. On Thursday American Airlines jigged 5 to 6 lb. blues in the Shark River area. While Friday's trip for Bob King and group of Cambria Heights also jigged blues off the Jersey HIghlands. Saturday saw very good bluefish catches from Playland to the Warrior buoy off Riis for the Dick Reuben party of Merrick. Sunday it was off to the Highlands again and bluefish for the George Rodriguez group with good catches had.

Also out of Freeport, the charter boat **Capt. Gary** called to tell about Monday's fluke trip for Borough Park Day Camp with a bunch of youngsters having a ball. Friday's day trip for the

Serge and friends with a 250 lb. mako taken during a charter aboard the Freeport based "Apus II."

9th Precinct of NYC had very good bluefishing. Mike Maher was high hook with 16 blues while Kevin Odin took the pool with an 11 lber. All the bay blue action was on jigs. Friday's night trip for Fish and Brew Fishing Club was excellent working Cholera with bait and chum. Doug Moore took the pool with an 8 lber., while John Lapp was high hook with 20 fish. On Saturday a trip for Neo-Ray Products had great fluke and sea bass action along with blues off Riis Park. Pool honors went to John Elks with a 5 lb. fluke. Saturday's night charter for Al Meglino and group fished angler banks for blues with Al bagging a 14 lb. pool winner. High hook was Al's wife with 8 blues. On Sunday Cecil Best and pals fished sea bass off Riis Park. Cecil was high hook on the bass but William Best was best with his 3½ lb. fluke.

We learn from Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** that the week's bluefishing has been fair to excellent anywhere from 20 feet to 3½ miles off the beaches or to the southwest. Big fish of the week went 15 lbs. Tied with 15 lbers. were John Bernett of Queens Village and Joe and Dave Prestia of Bayside. High hook of the week was 34 blues for Jack Conway with runner-up 24 blues for Ed Geyer of Masspequa. Fish ran 4 to 15 lbs. Mike Stampolas bagged an 8½ lb. fluke in sthe State Channel. Mike is from Ports of Call Restaurant in Huntington. Victor, the chef at the same restaurant, totalled 18 keepers amongst lots of short fish. Fluke have been hitting killie, spearing and belly strips. A few fluke and sea bass were taken by a group fishing off Riis Park Sunday.

A call from the **Capt. Lou Fleet** advised that fluking slowed down at

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midweek but through the first half of the week high hooks on the full day boat were in the teens. The skipper said he may be flounder fishing by the time you read this report, so it's advised that you call before coming down. On Sunday the boat had big fluke and decent sized sea bass fishing off Riis Park Sunday. However quantities were not there.

Word from the **Capt. Andy II** is that the fluking through Sunday is pretty much the way it has been all summer long with lots of shorts and a passable number of keepers. Pool fish have been in the 3 to 4 lb. range everyday. Andy said on Sunday things skidded to the point where ever the short fish had lockjaw. However, things should begin jumping again as the fish must feed prior to moving out the inlet.

According to skipper Al Lindroth of the **Capt. Al** the bluefishing all week has been anywhere from very good to excellent. Friday night saw over 200 gorilla bluefish come over the rail. Nights in general have been strong. Saturday fishing off Playland, high hook was 70 fish and runner-up was 47 blues, from 1 to 7 lbs. Saturday night lacked quantity but there was still a lot of fish caught, all gaffers at Cholera. Al says these were the highlights. There are loads of fish around. Saturday's catch went over 1,000 blues. Al says come on down now while the fishing's good.

From the charter boat **Apus II** we hear of very good tuna activity in the compass rose area. These are mostly small yellowfin tuna but enough large ones to keep the game interesting. captain Mike says everyday he trolls anywhere from 3 to 12 fish in the 20 to 100 lb. category of combined yellowfin and bluefin tuna. There is consistency with tuna on every trip. A few dolphin are also taken each trip. Best catching lure has been the Striker Mean Machine. September and October said the skipper should see a big rise in the number of fish caught in this area. Bluefishing has been hot as evidenced by Sunday's catch of 60 blues chummed locally up to 18 lbs. for 2 anglers. Fish averaged 5 to 7 lbs. with a few gorillas to 18 lbs.

We also hear of good bluefishing all week from the **Freeport Boatmen's Association.** The blues are in various places and catches are equally strong, day or night weather permitting. The night fishing has generally been at Cholera and 17 Fathoms for fish 5 to 15 lbs. and all boats are loading up. There are still a lot of fluke around with about a 10 percent keeper ratio, with the keepers being very nice sized. Yellowfin and longfin tuna are being taken on plastic anywhere from 40 to 60 miles off the beach. The **Super Spray II** has been loading up on blues at night. Lots of sea bass being caught at Cholera with some mako shark action in that same area.

Over in nearby Point Lookout, **Scotty's Fishing Station** told of Jim Woods and Mal Fraser fishing the Canyon on the Jennie B taking yellowfin and longfin tuna with a 60

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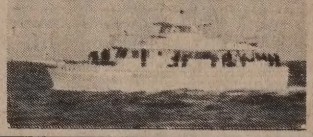

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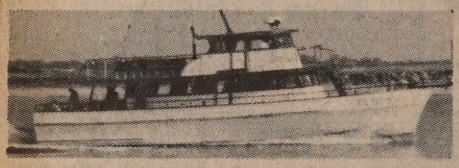

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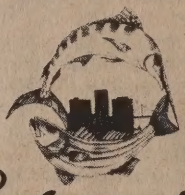

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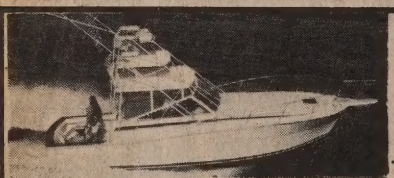

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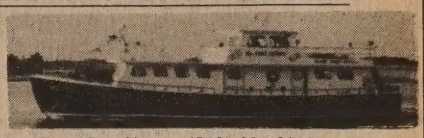

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lb. wahoo, all trolled on Green Machines and Striker Mean Machines. Plenty of blues from the beach on out to 80 ft. of water for umbrella draggers and diamond jiggers. A dozen went into the fish box of Don Marconi on his boat Hiding Place. Oliver Webb bagged a 3½ lb. fluke this week. Good fluking was had over the past week mainly in Middle bay around the top of the tide on killies. Fair floundering on worms and clam at buoy 14 in the inlet and at the CG station.

Word from the **Capt. Bill** is that on Tuesday Ed a regular pulled a 6 lb. 2 oz. fluke, while on Wednesday's PM trip, Flushing angler Dallas Secor bagged a 7 lb. 2 oz. fluke. Pools have been in the 3 to 4 lb. range and high hook have 4 to 5 fish per trip with lots of shorts going back into the water. A bluefish charter Saturday had lots of blues hitting diamonds for a group of dentists.

From the **Miss Point Lookout** comes word that fluking has been picky to fair all week. On Wednesday's AM trip Michell Cobert, age 10, from Iowa had 8 keepers including the 3 lb. pool fish. Saturday's AM trip had roughly 100 keepers with things getting tougher on the PM trip. Sunday AM and PM trips averaged about 7 keepers a man. Blues have been consistently good all week on the night trips except for Tuesday night and the bad weather. Small crowds and big catches were the order of the night. Over 600 fish were taken Monday night. Nightly catches are averaging 10 to 15 blues a man, with fish running 3 to 12 lbs. all on bait at Cholera and 17 Fathoms.

Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** told of a 70 lb. mako caught just south of Cholera on Howie Frankel's Night Wind. Dan Riley and Frank Schulte were solid into blues at the J2. On Friday a 6 lb. fluke was the reward for Bob and Bonnie Ciccione of Freeport, fishing Long Creek. Some good size fluke have been taken this week on both sides of the Big M, Swift Creek and in the flats. Four regulars from Jerdey totalled 44 keepers in the flats. Blackfishing has resumed again at the Big M and Long Creek bridge on fiddler crabs. A few flounder being caught in Swift Creek and loads of snappers around.

From the **Commodore** out of Island Park Capt. Clem found good drifting conditions and good catches mostly outside off the reef at Riis Park this week. Although there were no quantities there were decent scores averaging 4 to 5 big fluke a man plus a few sea bass as well up to 4 lbs. Pool fluke have been going 5 to 7 lbs. Conventional tackle is required for this type of fishing. Clem advised the fluke have yet to come out of the bays so there are some more good shots definitely available at those fish.

Word from **Long Beach Sports Marina** has been of fair fluking, best areas being the Warrior buoy off Riis, Duck Point and buoy 1. Blackfish are resuming at the 28th St. Wreck,

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THE Fisherman

off the Rockaways and the gong buoy. Bass, weaks and blues being taken on live or fresh cut bunker under the bunker schools in Reynolds channel. Fourteen year old Mike Brown took a 17 lb. blue in this fashion ad did 8 yr. old Bill Piero with an 11 lb. weak. Gerry Resnick bagged a 20 lb. striper fishing a live bunker in Reynolds. BCCs have been few and far between but snapper fishing has been great.

Word from **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook continues to be of lots of fluke, mostly shorts. Bigger fluke off Riis Park and Playland, around the Warrior Buoy. Snappers have been a very good item in bay park while buoy 4 was an umbrella slaughter on 4 to 6 lb. blues Friday and Saturday. Some small bass at the Big M and the ABB on sand worms drifted out with a piece of split shot. Best has been 2 hours around the high, but above all things must be quiet on the water.

Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** in Atlantic Beach was enthusiastic about the bluefish umbrella trolling and jigging off Playland in 25 ft. of water. Best fluking has been at the Warrior buoy with most fish 2 to 3 lbers. and big blues mostly at night at 17 Fathoms. Meta Hill decked a 16 lb. 4 oz. blue aboard the Four Queens. Small blackfish to a pound have returned to the ABB, while some stripers being taken at the Silver Pt. Jetty on 5½ inch hingeback Rebels.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Skippy at **Skippy's Bait and Tackle** said the hot item in his area this week have been the loads and loads of snappers in all the bays, especially Bay park. The bccs are few but huge, while the best fluking this week has been around the Warrior buoy off Riis and Ambrose channel.

On Jamaica Bay, **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** has plenty of info on lots of porgies of the hand sized variety being taken off both north and south channel bridges on sand and blood worms. Decent numbers of fluke, mostly keepers on killies and squid off both bridges also. Lots of small snappers and 2 to 3 lb. blues on small lures, spearing and killies off the bridges, while large blues are taken at night on whole or chunked bunker.

Across from the Sheepshead Bay fleet, Wee Willie at **Mike's Tackle** reports blues are smashing A27 jigs with tails also the Bomber mouse lures. There's presently good porgy and sea bass catches being made from Rockaway to Sea Bright. The store weighed in a 5½ lb. sea bass this week. Between the Tin Can and Norton's Point, bass, blues and weaks are being caught in the evenings on fresh bunker and in the mornings on Nordic Eels and bucktails. Fluking has been excellent. S.T. Weng and 19 friends had 75 keeper fluke from 3 to 5 lbs. plus a 8 lb. pool fish working off the Rockaways. George Homeney bagged a 7 lb. 6 oz. fluke. On Tuesday

Wee Willie himself had 8 keepers fishing aboard the Pastime II. Tony also had a 6½ lb. fluke on the Pastime II.

According to skipper Walt Weigand of the **Flamingo II** bluefishing has been excellent all week with Friday, Saturday and Sunday seeing massacre proportion catches. It couldn't be any better said Walt. Fish averaged 4 to 8 lb with some 10 to 12 lb. jumbos taking the pools. A few odd weakies mixed in, all on diamonds. Action has been along the New Jersey beaches from Highlands to Asbury Park plus off the Rockaways. Friday night's trip saw a moderate catch and Saturday night, fares pulled fish like crazy. Great bluefishing right now said the skipper.

North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

After winds died on Saturday afternoon most stations agreed that both weather and fishing were excellent, with fluke, porgies, and loads of bluefish on tap. Boat traffic was indeed a factor with bluefish in some areas, however.

WESTERN SOUND

John DiCutta gave us a detailed report from **Jack's Bait** on **City Island** where all the skiffs were out over the weekend. There were nice catches of porgies with some flounder as well, and the big bluefish were "crazy" at times. Billy Vassilio managed an 18 pounder that looked like a football: the slammer was taken off New Rochelle on bunker chum. One persistant local, fishing fiddler crabs in 20 feet of water proved that big blackfish are long term residents when he nailed a 12 pounder, and Andy Staris was managing a couple of bass in the 8-10 pound class on most trips.

Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** told us that there were a lot of porgies on the Center Island reef but that pins dominated the catch there. There were some bigger porgies plus a few blackfish around Norwalk even though the pick wasn't the fastest. A catch of 15-20 keepers in most a pails was a mix of blackfish and scup. Joe Ferrara of the **Sea King** said that porgy fishing was fair around West Beach, Huntington where there were some nice scup and only a few blacks to be caught. High hooks produced five weakfish on one day, summer fish to a couple of pounds in weight, and there were a few fluke in the 2 pound

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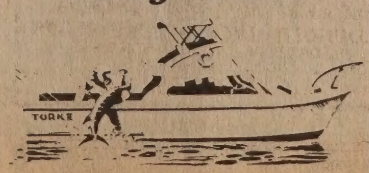

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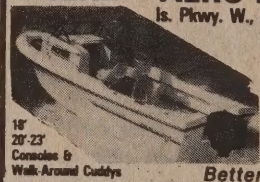
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class as well. During the weekend, 10 fluke were taken by porgy anglers, and most of these were shorts.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Billy Collins of the **Ever-Ready** felt that the bluefish action through the week was "pretty good" but that boat traffic had slowed the action over the weekend. Most of the choppers were in the 4-8 pound range with a few slammers in the 12-16 pound range taken early in the week. On Wednesday, Collins hit a pod of weakfish with the top tiderunner weighed in at 11 pounds. Evening fishing was VERY tide dependent, and the only really good night was Wednesday, while Thursday and Friday evenings were very slow.

George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** said that blues were taken on umbrella rigs and chunks as well as jigs. Target Rock and Marshall Field had fish to 6 or 8 pounds and the zone from the OB to Buoy II was good, too. Fluke continue to be "super" around Sand City, Lloyds, and Buoy 13, with the largest of the week weighed at 5.10 and 5.11. Porgy fishing was better now off Marshall Field, Eatons, and Callahans. Bass fishing was picking up somewhat with a number of keepers in the 6-low teens range.

The **Caraftis Fishing Station** in **Port Jefferson** said that fluking was still steady on fish to 4 pounds with one catch Sunday of 8 keepers. Porgies were rated as "pretty good" in 30 feet of water off Old Field and Crane Neck with lots of smaller fish inside. There were many small blues in the Buoy 11 to Buoy 9 area with larger fish to 12 pounds in the Crane Neck slots.

Ralph's Fishing Station in **Mount Sinai** said that there were a lot of porgies on the rocks. One haul of 18 scup from the Middle Grounds did have some large fish in the bucket. The only problem with fluke fishing was the availability of bait. Flatties were all along the beaches with the best fish of the week a 4½ pounder taken on Saturday.

The **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** sait that there were some local catches of 6-20 fluke per boat but that dragging activity made the day-to-day results spotty. Weekend anglers were all talking bluefish with some of the bigger fish taken around Huntington or off Connecticut. **Sutler's** in **Port Jeff** had many entries among the 4,000 anglers in the Connecticut based bluefish contest. Glenn Dennis's 15.36 pound slammer was well behind the 19.53 pound winner but still good enough for fifth place. The tagged bluefish was not caught, but a bounty has been put on the fish: $5,000 will go to the angler who catches it between now and Thanksgiving. Heaviest fish worth $10,000

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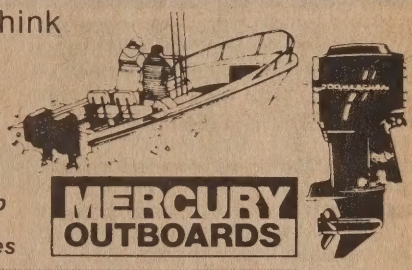

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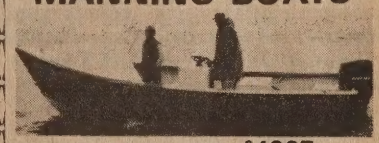

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caught by Norwalk resident Oscar Navaret reportedly 150 ft. from shore off Stamford Conn. weighed 19.53 lbs. Next 5 heavy fish worth $1,000 each were: 17.29 lbs. Lee Andre of Norwalk, 16.22 lbs. Frank Bizzaco of Yonkers, 15.50 lbs. Kevin Korcz of Northport, 15.36 lbs. Glenn Denis of Ridge, NY, and 15.34 lbs. Rick Carroll of Norwalk.

NORTH FORK

The **Mattituck Fishing Station** reported very good porgy fishing with some blackfish mixed in. There were a number of summer weaks to three pounds and a few scup to three as well, although most porgies were "mixed" sizes. The best angling was around the turn of high water. Ed Kopack at **Warren's** mentioned a few blues taken from the beaches by chunkers and suggests that those who fish the area from the Firing Range to the Beachcomber try sandeel baits. A catch of six fluke to 3½ pounds plus some blues and short bass was recorded over the weekend. The biggest chopper went 8 pounds.

Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's** had good news about the return of the summer run weakfish in the Peconics with catches from 20-40 fish to 4 pounds off Rose's Grove. Morning and evening were best. There were also some reports of porgy catches in the hundreds with some larger fish scattered in the buckets off Buoy 26. John Mergerson, Ty White, and Terry Stevens hauled a huge catch of scup to 2½ pounds on worms and skimmers with the help of chum pots.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** in **Southold** said that porgies were holding in the deep 40-50 foot holes on either side of Jessups, and that chumming was the answer for medium fish in the 1½ pound class. Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** said that snappers were all over the local area and reminds customers that he's got a wide assortment of bait for fluke, including sandeels, shiners, squid, and killies on most days. Bluefishing was described as "still unreal" by Richie Jensen of the **Nancy Ann** with average catches up to 200 per half day. Fish move everywhere, and White felt that the pattern was to fish Pigeon Rip and the Gut on the ebb with the Race generally good through the day. Jensen simply felt that the blues were moving through the area at random. Many of the choppers were 3-4 pounds with a few school bass mixed in.

Fluke fishing still featured the mass of small summer flatties around Plum Island's south side, but the fish turned picky on east winds Saturday morning. In fact, Larry Ciccotto of the **Prime Time** saw the 50 fish catch for 8 anglers as the worst of the summer. Nevertheless, there was a blast of fish around high water and a late afternoon pick on the shoals which indicated that the run was still there. Largest of the flatties run about 3 pounds. Anna May Rainis, now back in better health, returned to the **Blue Albatross** on Saturday, and told us that the fishing on the last of the flood was indeed pretty good. The Greenport fluke boat will be sailing as an open boat this Labor Day weekend and on some weekends this fall, so anglers should call the Rainises for information during the preceding week.

Rod DeLisle of the **Prowler** is already tracking some blackfish, and he found good numbers of fish to 6 pounds in 40 feet of water for Walter Ruskowitz over the weekend. Roosevelt Brook's party bailed porgies in mixed sizes around Constellation Rock as well.

The **Brand X** and **Peconic Star** were talking of very good porgy fishing with some spots on the Sound having larger fish in 30-40 foot depths. Dave Brennan said that "catching a dinner was guaranteed" with porgy fishing better than last year. Fishing was often out to 60 feet of water with sinker weights ranging from 2 ounces all the way to 12, depending on the tides. The best fish in the eastern sector are over 3 pounds, but numbers still have to build there.

One last report from sharpie Nick Cyprus of **Warren's** mentioned a nice catch of 8-12 pound blues taken while trolling green mackerel-finish plugs on the Sound on wire line.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

The safest bet for surf action this past week had to be the Island's south fork beaches where blues made numerous forays into the wash through much of the week and weekend. Several Fisherman employees who live on the south fork reported encounters with blues along East Hampton and Amagansett Beaches on the weekend while out at **Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** spoke of some very good innings with bluefish on the south side beaches 3 or 4 days this week. Much of the heaviest action was centered around Hither Hills where tourists made hay with fish ranging from 3 to 8 pounds. Monday, Wednesday and Sunday, from late afternoon until dark saw particularly good fishing. On Wednesday, John said the water was literally black with fish in the 6-8 pound class. Plugs and tins have all been equally effective on these choppers. Outside of the bluefish action the only activity at the Point has been a few small bass

Mike Papst, age 12, shows the 10½ lb. striper he caught at Hewlett Pt. In Manhasset Bay while fishing with his grandfather, "Bigo" O'Leary.

under the Light.

Along western south shore beaches there was a good flurry of 2 pound class blues at West End 2 Sunday night according to Scott Greenberg at **Merrick Tackle** in **Bellmore**. Tins, particularly Kastmasters, produced well right up until dark. A few bigger fish into the teens have been picked up on bunker chunks at West End and Parking Field 6 in recent days.

Scott Smyth over at **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** reported a sprinkling of small blues and short bass at Democrat Point on tins and droppers in the early morning and evening hours. Also, shop owner Bob Vitale used sandworms to take bass of 7 and 10 pounds and a 5 pound weak from the bank in the Baldwin Harbor area Friday night.

From **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** came a report of a 40 pound bass taken on a bunker chunk at Cedar Beach by John Lewis. Taken early Sunday AM, it was John's first bass ever. A very occasional weak on live snappers from the Thumb along with a few nice fluke. Out along the Moriches shore, some sporadic action with blues ranging from 2 to 7 pounds although the best action seems to be along the Fire Island communities where access is a problem for most surfmen. One caster did report a flurry of medium sized blues in front of the Smith Point pavillion one afternoon early last week.

Up on the north shore, reports of a few small blues near the mouth of the Nissequogue River. According to George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** in **Huntington**, there are a few big blues around local beaches on bunker chunks. Some also on poppers. There are lots of fish in the area so any stretch of beach has potential but nowhere has produced steady action.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . –0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	11:30	11:45	—	12:10	—	12:10	12:30	12:55	2:25	2:50	2:20	2:45	11:15	11:40	8/30
FRI.	—	12:20	12:35	1:05	12:30	1:05	1:25	1:50	3:25	3:45	3:15	3:40	—	12:10	8/31
SAT.	12:40	1:15	1:30	2:05	1:25	2:00	2:25	2:50	4:30	4:55	4:15	4:40	12:35	1:10	9/1
SUN.	1:40	2:15	2:35	3:05	2:20	2:55	3:30	3:55	5:50	6:10	5:15	5:40	1:35	2:10	9/2
MON.	2:35	3:15	3:35	4:10	3:25	3:55	4:40	5:00	7:05	7:30	6:25	6:45	2:40	3:15	9/3
TUES.	3:45	4:15	4:45	5:15	4:30	5:00	5:50	6:10	8:10	8:35	7:30	7:50	3:45	4:15	9/4
WED.	4:55	5:20	5:50	6:20	5:35	6:00	6:55	7:05	9:10	9:35	8:30	8:50	4:45	5:15	9/5
THURS.	5:55	6:15	6:45	7:10	6:35	6:55	7:45	7:55	10:05	10:25	9:25	9:45	5:40	6:00	9/6

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehobeth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	–0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point, north side	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	–0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rochelle	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	–1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/30	6:24	7:35
FRI. 8/31	6:25	7:34
SAT. 9/1	6:26	7:33
SUN. 9/2	6:27	7:32
MON. 9/3	6:27	7:30
TUE. 9/4	6:28	7:29
WED. 9/5	6:29	7:26

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/30	10:52AM	9:58PM
FRI. 8/31	12:06PM	10:29PM
SAT. 9/1	1:19PM	11:05PM
SUN. 9/2	2:29PM	11:46PM
MON. 9/3	3:34PM	—
TUE. 9/4	4:31PM	12:35AM
WED. 9/5	5:19PM	1:30AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
8/26	9/2	9/10	9/18

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The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	9:00	**2:45**	9:25	**3:10**
Fri.	9:50	**3:40**	10:20	**4:05**
Sat.	10:50	**4:40**	11:20	**5:05**
Sun.	11:45	**5:35**	—	**6:00**
Mon.	12:20	**6:20**	12:30	**6:50**
Tues.	1:05	**7:15**	1:25	**7:40**
Wed.	1:55	**8:05**	2:15	**8:30**
Thurs.	2:45	**8:55**	3:05	**9:20**

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16' CLASSIC John Dory, 1983 Mariner 15 hp, Cox galv. trailer. All used one season & in mint cond. A great Bay & Sound fishing machine. $2600. 516-981-1920.

AQUASPORT 19.1
Center Console, 115 Evinrude, live bait well, large fish well. Twin 18 gal. tanks w/new fill & supply lines, new H.D. Marine batt. Complete new Teleflex system w/big T head, Dytek L.C. tachometer, temp. gauge, new cushions, custom made rod holders, new fuse block & wiring, etc., recorder. This boat has been meticulously maintained & is in mint cond. In water; ready to fish or cruise. Asking $5000. 725-4378 John.

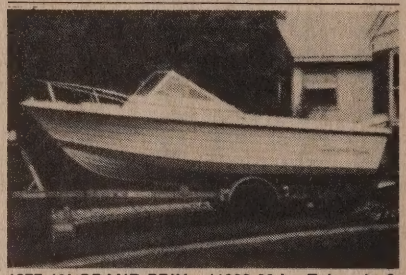
1972 SEA CRAFT center console, twin 1978, 140 hp Johnsons, Elac recorder, Bennett tabs, Modar VHF, new props, tachs, cushions, steering in 1984. Very clean. $12,000. 516-764-4345.

FISH/CRUISE
1982 21' RENKEN cuddy. Very low hrs. 3.8 litre OMC I/O, professionally serviced. Computer chart recorder, flasher, VHF, CB, Canvas, spare prop, 4 rod holders. Many fishing access. CG pkg. All excl. cond. Fully equipped. Dockage paid for in Seaford. Days, Mon-Fri: 516-466-0335. Eves or W/E: 516-938-3127.

FORTIER 27' 1980 225 hp FWC. Tower, fighting chair, outriggers, pulpit, fish box, tackle drawers, electronics. $34,000. 516-826-4873 or 878-0134.

FOR SALE: 1977 Bruno Stillman, solid glass. 1981 6V63, radar, Loran, 2 recorders, 2 radios. Hydraulic steering. Sleeps 4. Fish hold, nets, extras. $45,950. Boat in water at Montauk. 914-423-2183 8-5, Mon-Fri. Ask for Eddie B.

68 UNIFLITE 23' Chrysler 225 FWC. New-1981. Si-Tex HE 256, CB, VHF, T/T. Dual batts. Low hrs. $7000. After 5PM: 212-961-1598.



1977 19' GRAND PRIX w/1983 90 hp Evinrude & EZ Load trailer. SST Prop, VHF radio & depth recorder. Vinyl top; new axle & springs. Spare tire. Asking $6550. After 3PM: 516-579-7526.

23' SUMMERCRAFT 1956 Fiberglass/Wood hull. Palmer 6 cyl. I/B. Low hrs. $2500. Eves: 325-1670.

1983 BAYLINER 28', Contessa Sedan Bridge. Full electronics, Loran. Sleeps 6; low hrs. Sacrifice at $30,000. 914-634-6024.

GRADY WHITE 1976 204 Walkaround cuddy, Porta-Potti, 188 hp V8 FWC I/O, trim tabs, Si-Tex MK11A DF, 787C Loran, Ray Jeff 5100 VHF. All warranteed. $9850. In Lindenhurst. 212-631-0351.

28' BERTRAM FB SF 1974, 2 Merc 225. Low hrs; mint cond. Top overhaul. Ready to fish. Lower sta., electronics loaded. Auto pilot; Loran C, paper fish finder, digital water temp, engine sync. Digital depth sounder, fish cheater. Ship to shore radio, CB, stereo w/cassette. Bilge blower, windshield wipers, SW washdown. Auto batt. charger, flow scan, 4 cockpit flush rod holders, air horn, Lee Jr. outriggers. Head; alcohol stove, refrig. Shore 120v power wiring, transom fish box w/circulator. New upholstery; new Bimini. Windscreen cover, flybridge cover, weather bridge encl., fitted winter cover. Spare props. Sleeps 4. Anchor & line. Spare parts. You must see. 2-boat owner. Must sell; try $44,000. Freeport location. Charlie, days: 212-361-7766. Eves: 516-334-8257.

SEA BIRD, 24', 225 hp Chrysler I/O. Re-done 83. Custom hardtop, trim tabs, tackle cabinets. Full electronics. Immaculate. Rigged for offshore. Many more extras. $14,000. 516-842-2524.

SEA OX 17-23', CC & Walkarounds. Phoenix 27', 29' & 38' in stock. Johnson motors, 2-235 hp. Most models in stock. You'll love our prices. STEIN'S BOAT & MOTOR SALES, Sayville, NY. 516-567-3313.

1973 28' BERTRAM FBC 270 hp FWC Crusaders. New 1983. Offshore fish equip. Micrologic 5000; Cybernet 5000 & CB, Si-Tex 356A recorder, water temp. gauge. Bimini top & enclosure; 250 gal. gas, tabs, Halon. $45,000 Firm. Days: 212-638-3711.

17' BOSTON WHALER center console, 65 hp Mercury, Teleflex steering. Casting platform, saltwater fish box. $2500. After 6PM: 516-399-4186

'79 Century Express 25', 228 Mercruiser. Loaded; 85 hrs. In water. Dockage avail. $14,500. 212-829-8584.

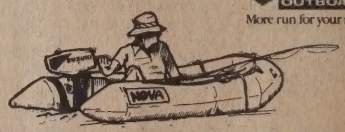
SEAWAY Center Console Clearance Sale: 1-17' center console w/large console & front seat. Built-in fuel tank, running lights, steering & self-bailing deck-$3895.
1-23' Center console, 44 gal. fuel tank, windshield & stainless grab rail, folding canvas dodger. Bow cushions; fish box rear seat. Large console w/steering, self-bailing deck-$7695.
AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

63 23' VERITY type skiff. Hard top; 2 bunks, V8 Chevy. Excl. sea or bass boat. Good cond. $2995. Eves: 579-8175.

USED Fiberglass boats. 7-5: 516-785-2960.

CARBURETORS, starters, alternators. Rebuilt on premises. Free bench check. Same day service. CRAFTSMAN, 268 Rt. 109, Farmingdale across from Republic Airport. 516-752-1259.

SUZUKI OUTBOARDS
More run for your money.



SUZUKI Outboards-MC KEE CRAFT Boats-INFLATABLES: Sea Eagle, Nova & Ampac. Combos avail. Summer dockage avail. Marine supplies. KREMER'S BOATYARD, Seaford, 516-221-8877.

1982 25' MAKO, Twin 150 O/B, tower, extra fuel. Full elec. incl. radar. Best equipped offshore Mako. Days: 212-369-7105. Eves: 212-428-0441.

30' CHRIS CRAFT TF 1976 T250s. Canyon equip. Full electronics. Boat redone in '82; must be seen. $38,000. 516-567-2729.

SEA OX 23' cuddy cabin 1984. Factory rigged controls, dual steering. Rod holders & racks, swim platform, elec. wiper. Teak splash well & more. $12,500. Sea Ox 18' Bowrider, self-bailing. Rigged w/factory control. Navy top & more. $7650. AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

GRADY WHITE 25' 5'' KingFish, 235 hp motor w/hard top new stern drive. Outriggers, VHF. Extras. With new trailer. $23,000. 10AM-3PM: 212-569-9513. Lester. After 6PM: 212-567-0079.

DOWIE 26' 1953. Stern controls. In water. Make offer. 516-766-4345.

FISHING BOAT SPECIALS
25' 82 GRADY WHITE 252 Swordfish, twin 26L Sea Drives. Excl. cond. Tower; loaded
25' 79 Grady White 254 Kingfish, twin 470 Mercs., FWC, tower. Loaded.
17' 1982 Mako, 75 hp Evinrude. Well equip.
22' 82 Grady White 225 Tournament, w/OMC 26L Sea Drive.
24' 81 Aquasport 246 Family Fish, OMC 260 I/O, custom canvas & much more.
22' 79 Aquasport 222 Family Fish, Merc. 470, FWC I/O.
19' 6'' 81 Aquasport 196 Family Fish, 83 Johnson 115 hp O/B.
23' 1978 Robalo, R235 cuddy, w/238 Merc. I/O. All electronics
25' 1978 254 Kingfish OMC, 235 hp I/O, VHF, tabs, pulpit & much more.
HOBBY LAND MARINE, Hampton Bays, NY. 516-728-4313.

EVINRUDE® MAKO Grover built DIESEL CUSTOM DIESEL POWER
★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL ★ EXPORT ★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL
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"REGINA-M" CHARTERS. Flounder, fluke, bluefish & shark. Fast 22' mini-Sportfisherman, CG licensed 1-4 passengers. Latest electronics & custom tackle. Bay/Ocean fishing from Island Park. Inquire about reasonable rates. Beginners welcome. CAPT. PETE MIKOLESKI, 212-306-3729. After 6PM: 212-478-4133.

SHAMROCK KEEL DRIVE: 20' & new 26' hardtop, gas or diesel; 3 models. Also Mako & Cruiser, Inc. Demo Avail. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400/728-0922.

SISU 79 22' hardtop Volvo I/B. 140 FWC, VHF, two stations. Excl. $13,500. 516-286-1050.

MANATEE 1980 19' Cuddy, 1980 Mercury 80 hp. Like new. Dry marined. Shelter Pt. Marina, 516-623-6599.

1984 CRUISERS INC. Sea Devil 20', 470 Mec. I/O, FWC. Full canvas; head; VHF, depth sounder, paper recorder. Washdown. Many extras. 51 hrs. New. $17,000. 516-399-2854.

1970 CHRIS CRAFT Cutlass cuddy 21' Fiberglass; 327 Chev. I/B, new manifolds, steering, seats, bilge pump, CB radio, DF. Many extras. $4400. 363-5114.

1984 GRADY WHITE 190 Tournament, 150 hp Johnson, washdown, custom canvas. Full instrumentation. 5-yr. extended warranty on engine.
1984 20' Shamrock center console I/B. Mint.
1982 Grady White 22' Seafarer, 1982 Johnson 235 hp. Excl.
1984 24 Privateer, twin 1982 Johnson 70 hp. Chesapeake cabin, bunk pkg. Excl.
1982 27' Sportcraft, Volvo 240 diesel. Every option
1979 21' Fiberform, Mercruiser 470. Load hite trailer. Loaded.
1978 14' McKee Craft, 65 hp Chrysler, 1983 trailer. Full canvas, bilge pump. Mint.
1977 18' Fiberform, OMC 120. Anxious to sell. Clean.
PORT OF EGYPT MARINE, INC., Main Rd., Southold, NY 11971. 765-2445.

AQUASPORT 246 F.F. 1982 Evinrude 235 Mercury 18. under 15 hrs. Loaded for family & offshore use. Excl. cond. 212-780-0664.

1976 CHRIS CRAFT Sportfisherman 25', 10' beam. Repowered 1983. New electronics; tuna tower; dual controls; 170 hp; 170 gal. fuel. Other added conveniences. Asking $20,500. Negotiable. 201-866-8073.

SEA RAY
1978 Weekender 24'. Full electronics, new canvas/camper back; stand-up head. Low hrs. Fish wells. Excl. cond. $13,900. 516-378-8629.

AQUASPORT 17'-28'. MARINELAND—the small boat specialists. Long Beach, 516-889-5000. Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Bronx, 212-824-4000.

1976 PROLINE, clean. Center console, 1983 Johnson 115 hp. Canvas, CB, tach, 1984 paper readout, etc. EZ Loader trlr. Electric winch-$6700. Eves: 516-981-0711.

1977 22' CRESTLINER I/O 260 hp Mercruiser. Excl. cond. 90 gal. gas tank, Loran, paper recorder, Sea Temp gauge, VHF, gin pole. Many, many extras. $11,300. 212-343-5226.

17' SEA NYMPH center console, 40 hp elect. Yamaha, EZ Loader trailer. $5995. 19' Sea Nymph center console, 70 hp Yamaha. $7995. K&K OUTBOARD, 516-431-1865.

1974 23' SEA BIRD center console, '81, 235 Evinrude. Lo hrs. Dual batt. switch, live bait well, 75 gal. built-in fuel tank, VHF radio & depth recorder. $8000. 1976 200 hp Johnson, lo hrs. Excl. cond. $2000. 516-598-0044.

SIZZLING SUMMER SALE
All inventory must go!
QUALITY GRADY WHITE BOATS:
1983 206 Islander, 2.6 ltr Sea Drive-$22,900
204c Overnighter
1981 Grady White Tarpon, 100 hp Johnson-$10,000
240 Offshore
1983 Grady White Tarpon 19', dual console. Full canvas, VHF, CG pkg. 115 hp Johnson, 10 hrs. Many extras-$13,800
All boats with extras
COME SEE our new 1984 Privateers
18' Closed Bow
20' center console
21' 20" Trans. C/Console
21' 25" Trans. C/Console
21' Cabin 25" Trans.
1984 Privateer. 125 hp
I/O, FWC 21' 6"-8' 4" beam. This is only place to go "Wen-U-Wanna-Buy-A-Privateer."
1983 Privateer 16' center console, display model. Binn ctl. pkg, w/new 1983 35 hp Johnson-$5275
Come check our drastic reduced prices
See our complete lines of DELL Quey:
1983 Dell Quey Dory 11' display model. Hardware, lights, console & steering, 25 hp Johnson-$3975
1980 Chris Craft Scorpion Mod. 211, 21' boat & eng. Compl. recond, new canvas-$13,995.
1976 Marquis 19', 115 hp Johnson; canvas-$3600
13' Dell Quey 1983 35 hp Johnson, swivel seats & benches. Full bow, custom spray hood, rod holders-$4300.
EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE, 210 Beach 2 St., Far Rockaway, NY 11691. 212-327-3168.

SPORTCRAFT—15' thru 30' in stock at fantastic savings. Immediate delivery. HOBBY LAND MARINE, Hampton Bays, NY. 516-728-4313.

48' PACEMAKER, teak cockpit, wood. diesels.
43' Hatteras, tower, 6-92s. o hrs.*
42' Hatteras, VT 903s
41' Hatteras convertible 8-53
40' Chris Craft, twin gas, wood
32' Forest Johnson T-diesels*, Perkins
31' Columbia tower. Hot to sell
31 Bertrams-several available
24' Combi 82 engine; sweet
25' Bertram I/O. Hardtop, less bridge*
32 Blackfin 3208T cats, tower
26' Bluefin, tower, twin gas*
22' Sea Rays, cuddy I/O
21' MFG, open sport
38' Vikings, 2. 1-gas; 1 diesel*
*Not at our docks.
We need listings. We find boats for you at no cost to you.
Fish well teak top; Sonar SSB 80 & assorted other electronics.
32' 1953 Custom Gilliken Flybridge, wood
45' Hatteras. Fresh paint & new tower
22' Penn Yan, flybridge
Call SEA JAC BROKERS, Jacksons Marina, 728-4220/6627. Tom or Chris.

DEMO—Our own 1984 SEA OX 20' cuddy cabin. Rigged w/1984 Mariner 115 hp. Power trim, motor. Many options. Full warranty. $14,300. AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

1978 SEA CRAFT center console/cuddy OMC 350 I/O, 127 hrs. Dual batt., dual tanks, VHF, chart recorder. Many extras. Contact GOLDSMITH'S BOAT SHOP, 516-765-1600.

USED MOTORS: 3.6 to 115 hp. 7-5: 516-785-2960.

ONLY $5995!
18' STEIGER Craft w/50 hp Mercury elec. start. 21' Model also avail. Commercial & pleasure models. STRONG'S MARINELAND, Rt. 25, Mattituck. 516-298-4020.

1982 45 hp Chrysler O/B, elec. start, control arm. Immaculate. Used one season. $1200 Eves: 212-645-3314.

WELLCRAFT center console 1973, 20' w/weather beater shelter; 50 gal. fuel tank & controls. Boat alone-$2995. AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

WANTED: Johnson Evinrude O/Bs. Any cond.; will pick up. Used parts available. 516-981-6487.

1968 41' HATTERAS GM 8/53's low hrs. Tower, electronics, awlgrip. Mint. custom interior
1968 30' Chris Craft Skiffs-2. Diesels 4/71 & 6/53. Low hrs.
1965 36' Steel/Lobster-work, GM 6/71
1978 26' Glass Grover, 85 hp Perkins diesel. Mint
1960 42' Bolger Canyon Fisherman, twin Cummins, loaded
1968 40' Columbian, twin Cats. Canyon ready
1967/1981 58' Wood Stern Trawler, GM 12/71, split hyd. winches. Fishing Daily
KARP MARINE AGENCY, SEABOATS, 516-581-3308.

BUYING A BOAT? You have 2 ways to go about it. You can spend your valuable time & money searching through countless publications, but we have a better way. Make one phone call to us & let our computer do the work for you. We offer Free listings of boats being sold directly by owners throughout NY, NJ & CT. All sizes; Power & Sail. Stop wasting time & call today. AMERICAN BOAT LISTING. NY: 516-379-6278. NJ: 201-458-6555. CT: 203-323-1533.

ALL 1984 EVINRUDES—Sale prices w/extended warranties. MARINELAND, Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

1977 23' ROBALO center console, twin 115 Evinrudes, T-Top, VHF, Ross recorder. Outriggers. In excl. cond. $11,500. Eves: 516-324-3451.

Mercruiser Rebuilt V8 outdrive—2. Excl. cond. $1000 each. 516-587-7567.

1982 TOPAZ 28' Offshore equip. Custom fish box, tower, outriggers, Loran, Radar, VHF, etc. 516-569-6495.

1980 17' PROLINE Center Console, 1981 70 hp Mariner, cooler seat. Extras. Asking $3900. Eves: 212-641-1973.

1981-82 25 hp Evinrude manual start. Low hrs. 17' Flat bottom Wood Skiff. $1000 Firm. 516-481-7849.

AQUASPORT 20' Walkaround, Johnson 235. All 1981 trailer, SS prop, canvas. All inst. Swim platform, VHF. Will sep. Days: 212-843-7777. Eves: 516-825-1204.

PACEMAKER Wahoo 1976 26' 10' beam, 1981 270 hp Crusader, 110 hrs. on motor. Tower, chair, outriggers. Much more. Ready to fish. $14,500 Neg. 516-878-0184.

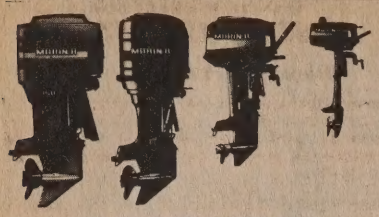
1983 22' "Holiday" Cruiser. Mint cond.; lo hrs. OMC drive, radio, depth finder. Loaded. $24,000. After 5:30PM: 516-679-9038.

1983 22' HOLIDAY Cruiser. Mint cond. 10 hrs. OMC Drive, radio, depth finder. Loaded. $24,000. After 5:30PM: 516-679-9038.

78 WINNER 21', cuddy, 170, FWC I/O. Trailer, power winch, CB. Many extras. Mint. $8300. 516-472-4434.

Continued On Next Page

AQUASPORT 19' 1" center console, 115 hp Evinrude. Morse controls. New Teleflex steering. Bimini top; built-in tanks, fish well. Tee-Nee trailer; more. $4900. Eves: 516-581-5964.



1984 MARINER OUTBOARDS
2-$340; 4-$540; 5-$660; 8-$840; 9.9-$1090; 15-$1190; 25-$1410; 30-$1455; 40-$1600; 50-$2160; 60-$2515; 75-$2885; 90-$3140; 115PT-$3910; 150PT-$4555; 200PT-$5050. Prices incl. delivery to you. Only NJ residents add 6% sales tax. SPORTS MARINE, 201-736-3909.

SEA OX 230, new center console, new Johnson VRO 185XL, T'N'T, Binn. control. rod holders, instr. panel, Bim. top. Battery; ready to go-$14,960.
Sea Ox, 1983 200 C Walkaround cuddy, 175 hp Johnson, rod holders, horn, instr. panel, wiper, cabin top. Low hrs. $12,500
Carolina Skiff, new 1662—16½'x78''. With Johnson 1984 25 hp-$3799.
GLEN COVE MARINA, INC., 76 Shore Road, Glen Cove, NY. 516-676-1377.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1983 EVINRUDES 1983
2-$305; 4-$495; 7.5-$740; 9.9-$960; 15-$1060; 25-$1260; 35-$1410; 50-$2100; 60-$2250; 70-$2500; 90-$2800; 115-$3100; 140-$3800; 150-$4300; 175-$4750; 235-$4900. ELECTRA MARINE, INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere.

30' EGG HARBOR Sptf. 1974. Rebuilt motors, new tanks-300 gal. 100 sq. ft. cockpit. Sleeps 6. Excl. cond. $24,000. Days: 212-752-9503. Nites, Wknds: 516-422-4441.

25' CHRIS CRAFT Lancer, new 260 hp, 280 Volvo O.D. 100 hrs. Loran, VHF, flasher recorder, chair, outriggers, gin pole. Excl. cond. $12,000 Firm. 516-599-1549.

1979 F.L. TRIPP 22' Complete Angler, 305 C.I. FWC I/B. Forward & stern controls. DF, VHF. After 6PM except 7-23-84 - 8-1-84. $14,950 negotiable. 765-5675/5395.

1969 22' ANACAPRI Skiff. New 302 Ford engine, seats, carpet, canvas. Rebuilt Volvo outdrive; CB. Very low hrs. Excl. cond. $4750. 516-581-6036.

26' L.I. SKIFF
VERITY TYPE MODEL. Built in Maine. 3/4" cedar planking, steam bent oak frames. Bronze & copper fastened. 70 gal. fuel cap. Auto & hand bilge pumps, 160 hp Chevy, FWC. Running lights, horn, Danforth compass, engine instruments. Hydraulic steering, Morse controls. $15,000 FOB Tenants Harbor, Ma. Other models 24'-32', diesels avail. L.I. Sales Rep, 516-698-2326 Eves.

1981 TOPAZ 24', cuddy cabin, I/B 350 OMC FWC. Full canvas. Low hrs.; like new. $15,500. 516-587-6562.

1981 235 hp Evinrude. Excellent running; low hours. 598-0044.

BOATING EQUIP.

PARTS—used, reconditioned; large inventory, Johnson, Evinrude, OMC Sterndrive. Lower units, housings, blocks, starters, power packs, props. KELLY'S MARINE SALVAGE, 516-265-5218, Evenings.

TUNA TOWER, from 42' Sportfish. 1¼" welded aluminum pipe. Incl. top controls & radar platform. Best offer over $1000. After 6PM: 212-948-5559.

COX BOAT TRAILERS—Direct factory purchase pricing: 12'-$299; 14'-$320; 15'-$350; 16'-$385; 17'-$410; 18'-$530; 20'-$685; 22'-24'-26' avail. Roller cradles, galvanizing or brakes optional. North Jersey. 201-736-3909.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 B'way, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.

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FURUNO, RAYTHEON, MORROW, SRD—all equipment from Lorans to radar units. Custom installations our specialty. Call for pricing & individual applications. N.Y. MARINE SUPPLY CO., 516-868-2123.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

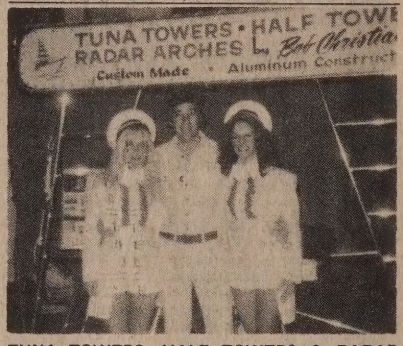
RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 377 Woodcleft Av, Freeport, NY. 516-623-4421.

BOAT TRAILERS E/Z Loader brand. Sales, service hitches. Glen Head. Days: 516-676-5313.

Electronics Pkg: standard VHF, Cobra CB, Mecca 6" white line chart recorder. Complete pkg. only. Make offer. 516-567-9249.

AQUA METER Depth Finder, 2 ranges: 0-40'; 0-240', w/transducer. Inmar, Sea trac, 0-70', w/alarm & transducer. Both w/manuals. Excl. cond. $100 each. 516-472-1676.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG., INC., 1121-16 Lincoln Av., Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.



TUNA TOWERS, HALF TOWERS & RADAR ARCHES—Custom made to your specifications. Anodized aluminum construction; welded joints. Delivered & fitted to your boat. Controls optional. Free estimates. Also self-inlating life rafts. Custom made radio & control boxes. Call Bob Christian, Eves: 516-979-9193.

NEW STAINLESS STEEL Half-Tower good for 28'-36' boat w/radar mount & electronic bos. On boat now located at Montauk Point. 516-775-4531.

CUSTOM MARINE WOOD WORK. No job too small. Teak step pads, instrument enclosures, cabinets, etc. After 5PM: 516-623-1639.

GEMTRONICS Chart recorder, Model G.T.103: white line w/flasher, transducer, instruction book. Zero hours since factory service. $185. Eves: 212-324-4627.

DUAL STATION LORAN: Raytheon 3000 & Navtech 1000 combo. Check out & in perfect cond. $800 for both stations. 516-728-0390.

FISHING TACKLE

1-Custom Wanser 16.0 rd. Used twice in Penn Senator + misc. rods & reels. $300. 516-783-8727.

Custom Fishing Rods Built; rods repaired; guides re-wrapped. We build rods to match the reel & fish! Eves: 516-794-7299/1992.

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS
Tangle-free, tandem tied with special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sprout hooks for more hook-ups. 3/$3.75 incl. p/h. BILL SMITH, 158 Vermont Av., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

COLLECTORS: We have some giant Pikie Lures, Pt. Judith Atoms, Pflueger; assorted Creek Chubs. 516-754-9276.

74" Glass Rod; 5 stainless rollers; 4/0 Penn reel; 3.8 Grumman 2 pr. oars; nylon line, pulleys, trolling sockets. Woolrich outfit. 298-5282.

Custom Spinning Rod 7' 6". Med. action w/650 SS Pen reel. Used 4 times. Cost $160; sell $80. 516-826-2173.

AQUA-CLEAR RIGS. Totally clear in the water. No metal parts; patented Aqua-Clear Standoff. Terrific fluke/weakfish rigs. Sample pack: 5 rigs-$8. Power Cast Surf Rigs-3/$5. Send check or M.O. to: C.H. TACKLE, P.O. Box 2194, Vincentown, NJ 08088.

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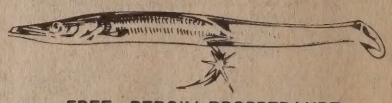

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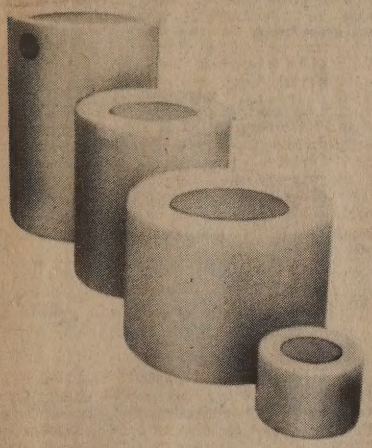

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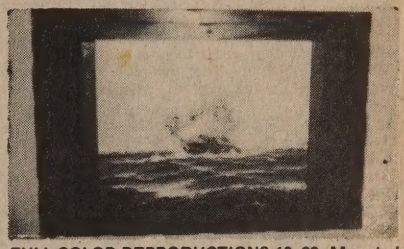

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